

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING SANDRA CREQUE'S 38 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE ALAMEDA COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS OFFICE

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to honor Sandra Creque's outstanding career in the Alameda County Registrar of Voters Office. On April 1, 2003, Sandy will retire as Division Chief, Registration and Outreach after 38 years of dedicated service.

Sandy's long tenure in the office of the County Registrar of Voters is legendary. She was committed to community involvement and service from the start of her career in 1965. She soon became involved in working with Students for Rockefeller at the University of California, Berkeley. Sandy was in the community five nights a week and on weekends, training students at UC Berkeley on how to register voters. Many of those students went into the South and conducted voter registration drives during the Civil Rights Movement, while others lead the nationwide anti-war movement during Vietnam, or worked locally to bring political change.

Sandy understands the importance of political involvement through the ballot box. She has been instrumental in providing professional guidance about the registration process and has kept to her mission to make sure every citizen is able to enjoy the franchise.

With her calm demeanor and wealth of knowledge, Sandy's invaluable contributions to elected officials and office seekers in Alameda County will be long remembered. Sandy helped make the process easier for them and their campaign workers. She made a difference, always behind the scenes, and always willing to go extra miles for everyone.

Highlights of her 38 year career that Sandy points to with pride include witnessing Barbara Jordan testify in Washington, DC, on the Voting Rights Act; the opportunity to help extend the vote to all segments of Alameda County's diverse population; and the opportunity to serve the diverse population in such a way as to enhance the electoral process.

These highlights are a testimony to the caring and professional manner in which Sandy Creque has conducted herself during her tenure in the Alameda County Registrar of Voters Office. She has been an exemplary advisor and a friend. We join Alameda County in saluting this remarkable woman; we thank her for her dedicated service, and applaud her for a job well done.

IN MEMORY OF JAMES G. PATTERSON

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, James G. Patterson of Cusseta, Alabama, died February 26, 2003, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Montgomery. He was 69 years old.

Born August 22, 1933, in Valley, Mr. Patterson was a retired veteran of the U.S. Army. James G. Patterson was a proud Alabamian and a model citizen who loved the military. He was a retired employee of Wellington Sears Utilization Plant.

Mr. Patterson was also an active proponent of civil rights. As a member of the Alabama National Guard, he protected 1960s civil rights marchers, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at events in Alabama and Mississippi.

Mr. Patterson is survived by his daughter, Betty J. Teel of Valley; his son, James Earl Patterson of Washington, DC; and three grandchildren, Michael Corbin Teel, Jamie Patterson and Alexandra Patterson. His children remember their father warmly.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 20, 2003*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 95) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2003 and 2005 through 2013:

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, the budget we're considering today does not reflect America's priorities.

At a time when Minnesota is making difficult choices to balance the State budget, at a time when we're confronting terrorism and a slumping economy, this budget turns its back on the American people.

This budget is reckless and irresponsible and hurts American families. It explodes the deficit, fails to create jobs, and fails to invest in education and health care.

Instead of a fiscally responsible budget, this budget piles up record deficits—the worst ever on record.

Instead of offering a budget that creates jobs, this budget incorporates the Bush tax cut plan, which the Economic Policy Institute says would cause a net loss of 750,000 jobs by 2013.

Instead of providing for a meaningful prescription drug benefit, the budget includes only

\$28 billion in new money for a Medicare prescription drug benefit, and envisions cuts in both Medicare and Medicaid that put hospitals, seniors, children, and the disabled at risk.

The Democratic budget I support focuses on America's priorities. Our budget includes an economic stimulus plan, which would jumpstart the economy, provide tax relief and create 1 million jobs. Our budget provides more funding for homeland security, \$34 billion, more funding for education, \$44 billion, and more funding for the environment, veterans and other priorities.

We also provide at least \$500 billion more for prescription drugs. Finally, our budget matches the President's defense request for the next 5 years, and achieves balance by 2010.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF FORDSON HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th Anniversary of Fordson High School in Dearborn, Michigan.

Dedicated on March 22, 1928, Fordson High School was designed and built on 15 acres to accommodate 2,300 students at a cost of \$2 million. Fordson was heralded in the 1920's for being the first million-dollar high school. However, it is the steadfast dedication to education and more specifically, Fordson's national reputation for helping establish immigrants in the United States that has truly set it apart.

Mr. Speaker, the City of Dearborn experienced unprecedented growth with the rise of the automotive industry in the 1920s and 1930s. It was during this time that Fordson became the center of a community increasingly noted for the number of immigrants and for its ethnic diversity. Today, the activities of the Arabic and Romanian clubs at the school continue the tradition of community outreach programs. A plethora of diverse languages and cultures have walked the halls of Fordson High School over the past 75 years. In fact, Fordson pioneers a program teaching non-English speaking students in their native language to keep up with their class work until their English skills are proficient.

Education has remained a top priority for Fordson producing many distinguished graduates. Local businessman and philanthropist Michael Adray; Walter P. Reuther, former president and founder of the UAW; Chuck Rossi, comedian with Martin and Rossi; name only a few of the noted graduates.

Mr. Speaker, as Fordson embarks on its 75th Anniversary, and in honor of their unflinching dedication to diversity and education within the community, I would ask that all of my colleagues rise and salute this wonderful school.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

## MARCH SCHOOL OF THE MONTH

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have named Oceanside High School in the Oceanside School District as School of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District for March 2003.

The principal of Oceanside High School is Dorie Ciulla, the vice-principal is Robert Ledlie and the Superintendent of Schools is Herb Brown. Oceanside High School has over 1600 students in grades 9–12 and over 140 staff members. The school philosophy is "Know Thoroughly, Think Critically, Act Ethically."

I chose Oceanside High School because its Participation in Government program for High School Seniors stands out among the other district high schools. Oceanside's seniors are encouraged to get involved in government by learning not only about our nation's history, but by studying our country's evolving public policy and set of laws, and the importance of community service.

Oceanside High School seniors can enroll in a variety of Participation in Government classes. Students with teacher or chairperson recommendations can enroll in Advanced Placement American Government, a college level course that features an in-depth curriculum covering the basic institutions of United States government.

Students who enroll in Community Volunteer Service get a dual curriculum, where they spend three days per week studying the issues faced by our local, state and federal government, and two class periods a week doing volunteer work in hospitals, nursing homes, elementary schools, political offices and day care centers. Completion of the course leaves students with first hand knowledge of the problems discussed in class.

Oceanside seniors have one other Participation in Government option: Public Policy and the Law. This class focuses on the political side of government, by teaching students the nature of politics, how politics relates to decision-making, and the formulation of public policy on local, state and federal levels. Students learn the process by participating in mock trials, town meetings and public hearings.

The Participation in Government classes converge to hold an annual Human Relations Day. On March 19, over 50 speakers were invited to address Oceanside students on a variety of topics, ranging from violence prevention to AIDS awareness to civil liberties to poverty on Long Island. The event provided the students with in-depth discussions of particular issues that they felt were of importance.

Human Relations Day is a unique and wonderful way for our students to be involved in current events. It shows that the classes in which the students are enrolled are truly successful in motivating the students to get involved in many public policy issues and matters of national concern.

I am proud to name Oceanside High School the school of the month for March 2003.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS THE SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE TROOPS SERVING TO PROTECT AND DEFEND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY ENCOURAGING ACTIONS TO EXTEND AND PROTECT THEIR STUDENT FINANCIAL AID FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION—H. RES. 158

**HON. JOHN KLINE**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce a resolution expressing the support and commitment of the U.S. House of Representatives for the troops who are serving to protect and defend the United States. More specifically, the resolution encourages actions to extend and protect the postsecondary student financial aid monies of these soldiers during this uncertain time.

This resolution is simple in its purpose. Following the attacks of September 11, 2001, Congress passed the HEROES Act of 2001, which allowed the Secretary of Education to work with affected borrowers, lenders and institutions of higher education to grant flexibility surrounding student financial aid matters. This resolution urges the Secretary of Education to maintain his commitment to our men and women in uniform by providing assistance and flexibility as they transfer in and out of postsecondary education during this uncertain time.

The resolution also urges all postsecondary institutions to provide a full refund of tuition, fees and other charges to students who are members of the Armed Forces or are serving on active duty, including the Reserves and National Guard. Many times, America's military are also students. They are called away from their class work and studies to serve our nation's national defense. These heroes deserve the flexibility and accommodations that institutions of higher education can provide as they are leaving for active duty and returning to the classroom.

Lastly, this resolution urges lending institutions that hold or service Federal student loans for borrowers who have been called to serve the nation's defense to provide all available benefits and flexibility to these servicemen and women. When these servicemen and women return to the United States, we don't want to put them in a worse position financially because of the time they were overseas serving our nation.

I hope my colleagues join me in expressing the Congress's commitment to our military and to our students and families.

HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KIDS BREAKFAST CLUB

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Kids Breakfast Club of Hayward, California on its 10th anniversary.

The Kids Breakfast Club was started by educator Marlena Uhrick as a program designed to provide a healthy breakfast and activities during school breaks for children who depend on school lunches for nutrition.

After serving 200 breakfasts to low-income children and their families at the Club's inaugural event in December, 1992, Marlena developed a more comprehensive program to include a free breakfast along with expanded opportunities for learning.

Today the program serves children during winter and spring breaks, and includes arts and crafts for children, a literacy program with story time and storytelling, free books, clothing, and health and dental screenings and referrals.

While the children are engaged in activities, the adults attend adult education classes on topics that interest them, including gang prevention, nutrition, drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and receive training in first aid, CPR, and parenting skills. All of the presenters are bilingual to serve Spanish-speaking parents.

The Kids' Breakfast Club has grown from one location to five, and over 30,000 breakfasts have been served in the program's 10 years of existence. The program also includes a year-round, once-a-month Saturday program. It has formed partnerships with the Youth Enrichment Program to provide tutoring for the students, and the Hayward Adult School to provide presenters and leadership.

I am honored to commend the Kids' Breakfast Club and its founder Merlena Uhrick for its dedication to providing children and their families with a safe and healthy start when school is not in session. The Club has brought the community together to show true meaning of the African proverb "it takes an entire village to raise a child."

## TRIBUTE TO SONNY CALLAHAN

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, from the cab of an 18-wheeler to a seat on one of the most influential committees in Congress, the road Sonny Callahan has traveled getting to our nation's capital was never dull.

Congressman Callahan was first elected to the United States House of Representatives on November 6, 1984 and served the people of Alabama's First Congressional District for eighteen years.

Prior to coming to Congress, Sonny Callahan was a successful small businessman who knew what it was like to meet a payroll each month. This experience taught him valuable lessons in paperwork and management and solidified his views as an outspoken advocate of less government.

A veteran of the Alabama legislature, Sonny Callahan came to Washington in 1985 committed to providing a conservative voice in Congress. Ten years later Callahan was tapped to chair the powerful House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations. In so doing, he became one of the 13 "Cardinals," an honorary title bestowed on the Appropriations subcommittee chairmen who, by virtue of their positions, are among the most influential members of the House.

During this same time, Callahan won rave reviews for his skills as a legislator, with The Wall Street Journal and The Washington Post praising on him as "an unlikely champion." He later became the chairman of the influential House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development in the 107th Congress.

Mr. Speaker, Sonny Callahan was a dedicated public servant and an honorable Alabamian. Let us take this time to reflect on his work in this historic chamber and thank him for his dedication to his country and the people of Alabama.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND APPRECIATION FOR THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATING IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

SPEECH OF  
**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 20, 2003*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 104, our troops in harms way in Iraq, and our President as Commander-in-Chief.

I express my sincere disappointment that the rules for H. Con. Res. 104 did not permit a division of the resolution into two separate pieces of legislation. Had this division been allowed, I would have voted in favor of the provisions on Page 4, lines 1–16. I would have opposed the remainder of the resolution, pages 1–3, because in my opinion this language prevented the House from unanimously supporting our troops and the President as Commander-in-Chief.

At a time of war, I believe we must stand together, united, behind our armed servicemen and women in the field, our commanding officers, and our military leaders. We must send a strong message to our troops that we stand behind them to the fullest degree, and we will continue to support them once their mission is complete.

The service personnel and their families in the Middle East and throughout the world have my thoughts and prayers with them always.

HONORING THE SAINT MARY CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the St. Mary Catholic Central High School (SMCC) volleyball team for winning the Class C state championship for the first time in the school's history.

It is the first state title for any SMCC girls team, and in fact it is the first state crown for any girls team from a Monroe County high school in any Michigan High School Athletic Association-sanctioned competition. It is quite a feat considering their opponent, the North

Muskegon Norsemen were ranked third in the state after the regular season. SMCC was unranked most of the year before finally making No. 10 in the last week.

During the regular season, the girls were known for their astonishing comebacks. In the State final, the girls were down 9–0 in the first game before they embarked on their amazing comeback that will go down in state volleyball history. The team finished their remarkable season with a 40–10–4 record.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask all my colleagues to rise and join me in congratulating the St. Mary Catholic Central girls' volleyball team for their perseverance, hard work and well-deserved championship.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, in 1821, drawing inspiration from the ideals and institutions of the fledgling United States, the Greeks waged their own struggle for liberty. They declared their independence after 400 years of rule by the Ottoman Empire, therefore returning democracy to its birthplace. Today, I rise to commemorate the struggle, and later the victory, of Greek Independence.

Throughout the world, and through history, Greek influence can be seen and felt. Our ideas on philosophy, politics, architecture, and the arts, stem from the Greeks. Today, Greece is a strong ally to the United States, proving to be a valued partner in NATO as well as to the whole of Europe. This is also true of Greek-Americans. Greek-Americans are extremely important to American society today. They provide our nation with scientists, artists, politicians, and in countless other areas.

Today, as we celebrate Greek Independence Day, we are all Greek. "Opa!"

INTRODUCTION OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION RELIEF OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS ACT OF 2003—H.R. 1412

**HON. JOHN KLINE**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce, along with several of my colleagues, the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act, HEROES, of 2003. This is a bill that expresses the support and commitment of the U.S. House of Representatives for the troops who protect and defend the United States. Specifically this bill provides authority to the Secretary of Education to assist students whose lives are being disrupted by being called to serve in the Armed Forces.

This bill is simple in its purpose. It extends the specific waiver authority within title IV of the Higher Education Act for the Secretary of Education, and allows him to maintain his commitment to our men and women in uniform by providing assistance and flexibility as they transfer in and out of postsecondary education

during a time of national emergency. This waiver authority addresses the need to assist students who are being called up to active duty or active service.

This bill is specific in its intent—to ensure that as a result of a war, military contingency operation or a national emergency: Affected borrowers of Federal student assistance are not in a worse financial position; administrative requirements on affected individuals are minimized without affecting the integrity of the programs; current year income of affected individuals may be used to determine need for purposes of financial assistance; and the Secretary is provided the authority to address issues not yet foreseen.

The bill also urges all postsecondary institutions to continue their support and commitment to their students by providing a full refund of tuition, fees, and other charges to students who are members of the Armed Forces or are serving on active duty, including the Reserves and National Guard. Many times, America's military are also students. They are called away from their families, class work and studies to serve our nation's national defense. These heroes deserve the flexibility and accommodations that institutions of higher education can provide as they deploy and return to the classroom.

As families send loved ones abroad to defend our Nation, the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act will allow the Secretary of Education to reduce some of the effects of that upheaval here at home.

I am proud and delighted that a number of my colleagues have signed on as original cosponsors of the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act. It is an indication of the Congress's commitment to our military and to our students and families, as well as to those who make higher education available. I look forward to swift passage of this legislation.

CELEBRATING GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. VITO FOSSELLA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, today we are gathered to recognize the Greek in their 182nd year of independence. It was the ancient Greeks who coined the ideas of freedom and justice that we founded our country on. And March 25th celebrates the freedom that Greeks enjoy since their war of independence.

In 1821, Greeks forcefully rose up against the oppressive Ottoman Empire, which had occupied Greece for nearly 400 years, embarking on the ultimately successful war of independence. This war was to the same likes that the United States engaged in nearly half a century earlier during the American Revolution. Fighting side by side through two World Wars, Greece and the United States remain committed allies in maintaining and strengthening freedom throughout the World.

My district of Staten Island and Brooklyn celebrates the Greek heritage as an important part of our community, providing diversity and culture to our schools and neighborhoods.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to congratulate the Greek people for 182 years of independence and thank them for their contributions to American life.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 182ND ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

**HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, the American people join with the people of Greece in celebrating the 182nd anniversary of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire.

The bedrock of our close relationship with Greece is our mutual devotion to freedom and democracy and our unshakable determination to fight, if need be, to protect these rights.

Greek philosophers and political leaders—Cleisthenes and Pericles and their successors—had great influence upon America's Founding Fathers in their creation of these United States.

We, as a nation, owe a great debt to Greece. Greece is the birthplace of democracy, as we know it.

Thomas Jefferson said, "To the ancient Greeks, we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves (American colonists) out of Gothic darkness."

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, were an attack on democracy and freedom—not just against our people, but also against all freedom-loving people everywhere in the world. The Greek people understand this.

I congratulate the people of Greece and wish them a Happy National Birthday.

**INTRODUCTION OF ENERGY TAX LEGISLATION**

**HON. MAX SANDLIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, one of the greatest problems facing the United States today is our lack of national energy independence.

The United States' dependence upon foreign sources of oil is simply unacceptable for a country rich in natural resources and equipped with the capability to develop these resources as a means of increasing our national security. At the height of the energy crisis during the 1970s, the United States imported 46 percent of our oil supply. Today, it is estimated that we import approximately 55 percent of all energy used in this country. As America's energy consumption increases, our need to produce more energy rises as well. Unfortunately, supply is not meeting demand, and our increased reliance on foreign sources of energy has potentially disastrous consequences for our national security.

At the same time, we have to acknowledge that energy independence cannot be attained through production alone. Though Congress should strongly encourage the production of energy sources as diverse as oil, gas, wind and solar power, we should also encourage the increased conservation of energy.

I believe the United States needs a balanced, forward-looking energy policy for the 21st century. For this reason, today I am introducing legislation that will provide needed in-

centives for the increased production of oil, natural gas, wind and solar power by our small, independent producers, as well as measures to encourage increased conservation of energy.

My bill would provide tax incentives for independent oil and gas producers to maintain production from marginal wells and develop nonconventional fuel sources such as coalbed methane and natural gas from tight sands formations. Further, my legislation would spur development of energy from renewable sources by providing a tax credit for residential solar energy production and electricity generation from wind and other sources.

Any balanced energy plan must acknowledge that Americans need to increase our conservation efforts in an attempt to move closer to energy independence. To that end, my legislation would provide incentives to homeowners to make energy efficient home improvements that decrease their consumption of energy.

Additionally, my legislation would encourage the production of cars powered by fuel cells and hybrid engines. Fuel cell technology holds enormous potential for the future, and the Federal Government has an important role to play in the development and use of this clean, renewable energy source.

The United States will not achieve energy independence overnight, and we must acknowledge that it will take years before America attains a greater level of energy independence. My legislation will move our country in the right direction and bring us closer to the day when we can reduce our dependence upon foreign sources of energy and increase our national energy independence.

**TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL PAMELA H. SMITH-BEATTY**

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Pamela H. Smith-Beatty for her faithful service of 22 years to the United States Air Force.

Pamela began her career in the Air Force as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force Medical Service in Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. She continued to serve in various locations, including North Dakota, Louisiana, Texas, California, Illinois, Maryland, Korea, and Florida. Throughout her career in these locations, Pamela devotedly performed her duties primarily as a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, but also as a Deputy Flight Commander and a Deputy Chief Nurse. Pamela has been honored with several awards, including a Space Command Field Grade Nurse of the Year award, a Meritorious Service Medal, a Commendation Medal, and an Achievement Medal. Pamela will be greatly missed by her co-workers, and greatly appreciated by her country.

I am honored today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Pamela H. Smith-Beatty for her auspicious dedication to serving her country.

**TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER CAROL HOTTENROTT**

**HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding naval officer, Commander Carol Hottenrott, who served with distinction and dedication during the past year for the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, FM&C, as a Navy Appropriations Liaison Officer in the Appropriations Matters Office. It is a privilege for me to recognize her many outstanding achievements and commend her for the superb service she has provided to the Department of the Navy, the Congress, and our great Nation as a whole.

During her tenure in the Appropriations Matters Office, which began in March of 2002, Commander Hottenrott has provided members of the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Defense as well as our professional and associate staffs with timely and accurate support regarding the Department of the Navy's Operations and Maintenance, Personnel and medical programs budget accounts. Her valuable contributions have enabled the Defense Subcommittee and the Department of the Navy to strengthen its close working relationship and to ensure the most modern, well-trained and well-equipped Naval Forces attainable for the defense of our great Nation.

Commander Carol Hottenrott has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the Navy and on Capitol Hill. She continues to be recognized as a truly unique naval officer and is one of a very select group of female naval officers to command a ship. She distinguished herself as a Commanding Officer of a Mine hunting ship and has been selected for command of another combat vessel. Exemplifying the best this country has to offer, she has made many personal sacrifices in the interest of the Navy and our Nation. Having worked with her on the highly complex operations and maintenance issues impacting the port of San Diego, I know she is a wonderful person and officer, and a bright and talented individual. Although she departs today to return to sea on the staff of the new Pacific Expeditionary Strike Group, I expect that she will continue rising through the Navy leadership ranks and that we will have many opportunities to work together again in the future. I wish her every success in her new job, and call upon my colleagues to join me in wishing her "fair winds and following seas."

**NOMINEES FOR THE REGIONAL ACADEMIC ALL-STAR TEAM FROM THE PENNYROYAL REGION IN WESTERN KENTUCKY**

**HON. ED WHITFIELD**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize nominees for the Regional Academic All-Star Team from the Pennyroyal region in western Kentucky.

The regional Academic All-Star program's purpose is to recognize top academic scholars

and performers. Students from Caldwell, Christian, Trigg and Todd Counties of Kentucky were nominated based on their academic performance in seven disciplines: English, foreign language, journalism, mathematics, science, social studies and the creative and performing arts. The students are judged on their core academic score, the curriculum of the student, their grade point average, academic honors earned, unique accomplishments and achievements, extracurricular activities (both community based and school-related), employment history, and an autobiographical essay.

Mr. Speaker, education is the foundation upon which we reach our human potential. Students in my District are developing their talents, furthering their education and pursuing their aspirations in life through programs like the Academic All-Star program. Encouragement and recognition develop confidence and achievement among young Americans—the future leaders of our country.

The following students have been nominated for their academic excellence:

J. D. Quin, Princeton; Frank Armstrong, Hopkinsville; Rebekah Woodall, Cadiz; Josh Covington, Hopkinsville; Jason Musser, Elkton; Elizabeth Hostilo, Hopkinsville; Jordan Judy, Trenton; Dana Davis, Gracey; Ethan Thomasson, Cadiz; Lewis Jones, Princeton; James Yoakum, Hopkinsville; Sarah Phaup, Madisonville; Melinda Orten, Hopkinsville; Hannah Cummins, Fredonia; Rachel Jagggers, Cadiz; Kelsie Nabb, Guthrie.

David Harper, Hopkinsville; Patrick Armstrong, Hopkinsville; Louis Clayton, Hopkinsville; Emmy Lou Kacer, Hopkinsville; Gwen Son, Princeton; Tavia Green, Hopkinsville; Kimberly Fennell, Cadiz; Craig Richardson, Hopkinsville; Jennifer Belcher, Hopkinsville; Jessica Mizwa, Elkton; Jonetta Tabor, Elkton; Jeremy Wells, Hopkinsville; Jackie Shiue, Hopkinsville; Emmy Lou Kacer, Hopkinsville; Stuart Cook, Cadiz; Jeffrey Kellow, Hopkinsville.

Kevin Oliver, Princeton; Katharine Pettit, Lewisburg; Tanner Parrent, Hopkinsville; Ben Gray, Cadiz; Hunter Ray, Hopkinsville; Cayce East, Hopkinsville; Ashley Crick, Crofton; Cayce Higgins, Hopkinsville; Rose Heflin, Elkton Menyon; Cayce East, Hopkinsville; Brian Belva, Hopkinsville; Elizabeth Dearing, Princeton; Patience Manos, Cadiz; Angela Latimer, Hopkinsville.

Mr. Speaker, these students embody the spirit, commitment and sacrifice that we all should strive for in our daily lives. I am proud to represent them in my District. I extend my thanks to these students for their efforts, and I am proud to bring their accomplishments to the attention of this House.

CONGRATULATING JOHN  
BRADFORD

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker I rise today to recognize and congratulate an exceptional student from Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. John Bradford has been named the male middle school student of the year by the Pennsylvania Middle School Association. John is cur-

rently a seventh-grader at Chambersburg Area Middle School, a member of the student council, and involved in numerous projects to help better his community.

Last year, John was instrumental in a campaign to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House. He organized an effort to raise \$360 by collecting aluminum can tabs at his school. Through his involvement in student government, John has also been involved in other charity related projects such as Coats for Kids, raising money for Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and a food drive that sent 4,000 canned goods to the Salvation Army. He is most recently working on gathering other middle school students to join him in participating in a walk-a-thon for the March of Dimes.

John has already accumulated an impressive list of accomplishments and has demonstrated a true desire to help better his community. I encourage him to continue volunteering and helping so many worthy charities. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating John Bradford for earning recognition as an exceptional individual by being named the male middle school student of the year in Pennsylvania. I am very proud to have such a tremendous individual in my district, and I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MR. SUNIL "SUNNY"  
AGHI

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I rise on the House floor to mourn the passing of one of the Indian American community's most exemplary leaders, Mr. Sunil "Sunny" Aghi. Although we will be at a great loss with his passing and it is difficult to express in words the grief of his family and all those who knew him, I would like to offer this tribute as a celebration of his many accomplishments during his short life.

"Sunny" was a man who stood for the honor and responsibility that comes along with American citizenship. Among his accomplishments was the creation of the Indo-American Political Foundation, a group dedicated to ensuring that Indian Americans were active in their communities and their government.

Beyond his numerous personal efforts to provide food and clothing for local charities, and raising money for scholarships to allow struggling families to send their children to college, Sunil's foundation sought to educate Indian Americans about what it means to be a part of their government and how it allows them to be proud of their citizenship in this great country.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have called Sunil Aghi a friend and I am eternally grateful to have called him a partner in the fight to bring government to the people and people to their government. I, for one, am humbled by his accomplishments and can only hope that his message of strong involvement in government, pride in our country, and concern for his fellow Americans will live on in all those he has touched.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I hope "Sunny" is remembered for all he has done and all that he has stood for throughout his short time.

HONORING 182 YEARS OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY IN GREECE

**HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of America's greatest allies and inspiration for our freedom, liberty, and most importantly, our democratic system of government—Greece.

Today marks the 182nd anniversary of Greek independence. Greek-Americans in my district of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and throughout the United States will celebrate this milestone and continue their rich tradition of philanthropy, civic duty, and education. Indeed, there are more than 3 million Greek-Americans in our country providing America with professors, engineers, scientists, artists, athletes, and politicians. Greek culture and heritage touch nearly every aspect of American life.

Greek Independence Day marks the revival of democracy in the place that gave birth to its principles, and many of the political, artistic and social innovations of Greece were the source of some of America's greatest treasures, including the rugged individualism described in Homer's poetry or the political philosophies of Aristotle.

In these days of war and terrorism, Greece remains a steadfast and stable ally of the United States in a region of the world that is marked by turbulence and violence. Following the attacks on America on September 11th, Greece was one of the very first countries to express solidarity with the United States. Since this time, Greece has made outstanding contributions to the global war against terrorism, including military support for Operation Enduring Freedom, humanitarian assistance for Afghanistan, and participation in the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan.

My Speaker, Greek-Americans should be proud of their rich and long heritage of service to their fellow humans, both domestically and abroad. I strongly applaud Greek-American commitment to family, community, and America, and hope all Americans join with Greece and her sons and daughters to celebrate 182 years of freedom, democracy, and friendship.

OREGON OPTION

**HON. DAVID WU**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, my state of Oregon is one of nine states nationwide that currently operates its welfare program under a federal waiver. In Oregon the program is known as the "Oregon Option," and in the past six years, it has seen caseload reduction rates above the national average.

Our innovative, state designed program allows Oregon the flexibility to consider individuals on a case-by-case basis.

Some folks simply need a little job training or job search skills and they are ready to transition back into the workforce. On the other

hand, others need extensive drug and alcohol treatments, or basic education, before they are able to hold down a job.

This combination of basic rehabilitative services to the most needy, and more education and job training activities for others, has proved a great success.

Unfortunately, Oregon's federal welfare waiver expires this year. If Oregon is forced to change its program to fit the guidelines laid out in the recently passed TANF reauthorization bill (H.R. 4), the result will be high cost and great disruption to a program that has been heralded as a success.

This simply does not make common sense. The legislation I am introducing today would extend existing, or recently expired, welfare waivers through fiscal year 2008.

Successful states, like Oregon, should be allowed the ability to continue their federal waivers, for as long as they have successful programs.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE THOMASVILLE BULLDOGS!

#### HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, the Thomasville High School Bulldogs have long been known for their winning football tradition, but with the dawning of the 21st Century, the Bulldogs are distinguishing themselves as a force on the basketball court as well. On March 15, 2003, both the men's and women's basketball teams of Thomasville High School captured the North Carolina state 1A basketball championship.

The Bulldog women's team became the first team in the school's distinguished history to win back-to-back championships after completing an impressive 32-0 season. Congratulations to Head Coach Eric Rader, Assistant Coaches Sara Larrick and Phil Apple, Managers Byron Lattimore, Patrick Jackson, and Andrew Oakley, and each member of the team. Best wishes to Impriss Manning (11), Maya Ray (12), Brittany Marsh (14), Lavonnda Harriott (21), Tyrannica Alford (23), Tameka Thomas (32), Kendra Rutledge (34), Shay Harris (40), Charmette Davis (41), Tiffany Carroll (42), Tasha Dallas (50), and Erin Crowder (33). Miss Crowder performed especially well, obtaining MVP honors for the second time.

The Thomasville men's basketball team also performed well, finishing their season with a record of 29-2 before winning the state title. We congratulate Bryan Shore (10), John Benjamin (12), Adam Oakley (20), Cord Thomas (21), Rasheid Brock (22), Junior Thome (23), A.J. Banks (30), Roy Peake (32), Alan Jeffries (33), Josh Sweitzer (34), Jeremy Mills (42), Terranza Stephenson (44), Patrick Henderson (50), and Brandon Setzer (51). Mr. Setzer obtained MVP honors for the men's team. Athletic Director/Head Coach Woody Honeycutt and Assistant Coach Lacardo Means also deserve congratulations for their leadership in coaching this team to victory.

The Sixth District would like to extend its congratulations to the Principal, Dr. Mike Allred, the students, faculty, and families at Thomasville High School. Best of luck to the Bulldogs for another successful season next year.

#### SALUTE TO GREEK INDEPENDENCE

#### HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following statement onto the floor in support of celebrating March 25, 2003, as Greek Independence Day. The ancient Greeks developed the concept of democracy, in which the supreme power to govern was vested in the people. The Founding Fathers of the United States drew heavily on the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming our representative democracy.

Greece is 1 of only 3 nations in the world, beyond the former British Empire, that has been allied with the United States in every major international conflict in the twentieth century. Greece played a major role in the World War II struggle to protect freedom and democracy through such bravery as was shown in the historic Battle of Crete and in Greece presenting the Axis land war with its first major setback, which set off a chain of events that significantly affected the outcome of World War II.

Greece and the United States are at the forefront of the effort for freedom, democracy, peace, stability, and human rights. Those and other ideals have forged a close bond between our 2 nations and their peoples.

March 25, 2003, marks the 182nd anniversary of the beginning of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire and it is proper and desirable to celebrate with the Greek people and to reaffirm the democratic principles from which our 2 great nations were born.

#### EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND AP- PRECIATION FOR THE PRESI- DENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATING IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

SPEECH OF

#### HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, March 20, 2003*

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, tonight the invasion of Iraq has begun. Overwhelmingly, it is the men and women of the American military who are carrying out this operation. That's why, although nobody can predict the twists and turns this war will take, I have no doubt that our troops will ultimately prevail. They are the best trained, equipped, and motivated soldiers the world has ever seen. They make us proud even in peacetime. And they will do so again in this conflict.

So it is right that the U.S. Congress should come together to express the Nation's respect and gratitude. And this resolution is a good first step. But it is only a beginning. We must follow up these flattering words with concrete measures of support for our troops, and for those veterans who served before them.

Let me be clear: I oppose this war. I voted against the Congressional authorization to use military force. I would prefer that our fellow citizens in the military were not risking their

lives in this invasion tonight. But now that it is underway, there should be no doubt in anyone's mind that the U.S. armed forces have our full and sustained support.

Within the Congress and across our Nation, we still have profound disagreements over the rationale for this pre-emptive strike. For my part, as a member of the International Relations Committee, I have been thoroughly dismayed at the handling of the buildup to this war. I believe it is particularly misleading to argue that this assault is part of the fully justified and necessary response to the savagery of al Qaeda. I strongly object to language in this resolution that does exactly that.

This is not to say that I oppose liberating the Iraqi people or ending the brutality of the Iraqi regime. Saddam Hussein is a ruthless dictator who has visited unspeakable horror on Iraqis and their neighbors. And I find myself concurring with those in the Administration who believe that this could be exactly the kind of radical strategy that could shock the Middle East into real change. But the way that the Administration so thoroughly assaulted the structures of world order in its rush to war could make our coming victory in Iraq a Pyrrhic one.

The White House attitude has isolated our nation from the rest of the world more thoroughly than at any time in recent history. It has alienated some of our closest allies, seriously damaged the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and potentially undermined the international order that the United States worked so hard to establish after World War II.

Either the Administration does not realize, or else it refuses to accept, that we need that international order. It is precisely because of this global cooperation that we have been so successful in the war against al Qaeda. Since for the most part, that is not a war in the traditional sense. It is one waged in the shadows, through intelligence agencies, special forces operations, and old-fashioned police work. Due to the sheer obscenity of the September 11 attacks, and the threat to the international order that this organization represents, most of the world welcomed the chance to assist us in fighting al Qaeda. And the help of many nations—yes, even that of France—has made a great contribution to our efforts against the terrorists.

But the Administration's belligerent swagger into war with Iraq has squandered that goodwill. Its ever-changing rationales for this action—particularly its assertion of direct links between Saddam and al Qaeda, which our own CIA refuses to corroborate—have undermined our credibility. Its refusal to estimate the cost of the invasion and subsequent occupation has stripped the budget resolution the House considered tonight of any connection to reality. Its abandonment of our veterans calls into question our long-term commitment to our serving military. Its penchant for secrecy and intolerance for dissent feeds conspiracy theories about our true intentions. And its assumption that might makes right sends a terrifying signal to a world that only recently had begun to embrace the traditional American view that legitimacy is derived from democracy and the rule of law. Although I am certain that our military will win the war in Iraq, I am greatly concerned that the Administration will lose the peace.

Time will only tell who is right. Many in this chamber will continue to have great differences with the Administration on this policy. But there is one thing on which I agree wholeheartedly with the President: our men and women in uniform deserve our deepest respect and appreciation. These American citizens are willing to die so that we may live; to risk life and limb for the sake of our national security. And they will do their job effectively, honorably, and without unnecessary partisan rancor. I call on my colleagues, and all Americans, to acknowledge their sacrifices by living up to the ideals for which they are fighting.

**RECOGNIZING JASON GUTHERY AS  
WINNER OF THE COTILLION FOR  
ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP**

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jason Guthery, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership. He has been honored with the Award of Distinction as winner of the Cotillion for Achievement scholarship program.

The Cotillion for Achievement award was established in 1986 and is presented annually. Two winners, one male, one female, are selected from public and private school seniors attending school in Andrew and Buchanan County, Missouri. Students are evaluated on four criteria; scholastic achievement, extracurricular activities, community involvement and an essay written by the student. This prestigious award has been extended to Jason.

Jason has established himself as a well-rounded student. He is involved in numerous activities, including Student Council president, yearbook editor, newspaper editor, Spirit team, baseball captain, football captain, LaFayette overnight experience, Peers Always Listen, blood mobile, Youth Forum facilitator, Lindbergh Christmas volunteer, Young Life junior leader, and a junior counselor of the Missouri Association of Student Councils. Additionally, he has been honored for his achievements with such awards and distinctions as the Students Owning Academic Responsibility academic pin winner and academic letter winner.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jason Guthery for his many achievements and in wishing him the best of luck in his future.

**HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF PAT LOOMES' TENURE  
AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF  
GIRLS INC. OF ALAMEDA COUNTY**

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pat Loomes, Executive Director of Girls Incorporated of Alameda County. Pat has selflessly dedicated her life to inspiring girls to be strong, smart and bold.

Pat grew up in Ireland and immigrated to the United States with education and activism as her primary goals. After earning a graduate degree she began working at the Berkeley Women's Center in the early 1970s. There she identified the immense need for preventive measures for women who had suffered life-long abuse and low self-esteem, and who possessed very few skills that could translate into employment or self-improvement.

It was at this time that Pat accepted the position as Executive Director at a small organization for girls with the passion and foresight that produced the thriving social service agency that Girls Inc. of Alameda County is today.

For the past 25 years, Pat has been instrumental in the financial growth of the organization. Under her direction, operations grew to over \$3 million, and today the organization serves thousands of girls. Girls Inc. has expanded from a small tutoring and recreational club to offering girls more than 10 additional programs ranging from science, math and technology enrichment to leadership and fitness as well as comprehensive mental health services.

During her tenure as Executive Director of Girls Inc., Pat has been ahead of her time in confronting girls' most sensitive needs with conviction and grace. In 1989, when funding cuts discontinued a local program for pregnant teens and teen parents, Girls Inc. began to support services for this population. Pat also oversaw the implementation of the award-winning national program, Preventing Adolescent Pregnancy. Since that time, Girls Inc.'s health and sexuality programming has expanded to include services to school-age mothers, pregnant and parenting girls involved in the juvenile justice system, as well as providing reproductive health education in schools from Berkeley to Union City.

Pat's hard work and devotion have not gone unrecognized. In 1986 and again in 2000, the United Way awarded Pat the Seaton Manning Outstanding Professional Award for her "visionary leadership and tireless advocacy for girls." The Wells Fargo Foundation and the Management Center of San Francisco also honored her with the 2001 Navigator Award for Model Leadership.

Pat served as a member of the National Girls Incorporated Board of Directors for 13 years. In 1995 she delivered a seminar on math and science for girls at the International Women's Conference in Beijing, China. Her advocacy skills were well utilized in these arenas of national and international policymaking.

I am honored to join the colleagues of Pat Loomes in commending her 25 years of tireless commitment to empowering girls. Pat has made it a personal and professional mission to strike a balance between her ideology and direct service to her community. She has been not only the driving force behind the success of Girls Incorporated of Alameda County for 25 years, but a crucial advocate for girls around the globe as well.

**GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on the 182nd anniversary of Greek Independence Day.

Greek Independence Day is a celebration of freedom and democratic self-governance. Classical Greece was the birthplace of democracy. Athens's era of liberty and self-governance inspired many of our Founding Fathers, particularly Thomas Jefferson as the author of the Declaration of Independence. Freedom movements throughout history have been inspired by classical Greece.

The 400 year foreign occupation of Greece by the repressive Ottoman Empire cast a pall over the proponents of democratic self-governance. The Greeks captured the world's imagination again when they began their fight for freedom from the Ottoman Empire in 1821. The Greeks won their independence and renewed the worldwide movement towards self-governance.

I am proud to represent one of the longest sustained communities of Americans of Greek descent. The first Greek came to Lowell in the mid-19th century. By the 1890s Greek immigrants began moving to Lowell to work in its mills. They opened Greek Orthodox churches, developed small businesses, organized social institutions, and helped build the city of Lowell.

The Greek families thrived and grew and Lowell became a major destination point for Greek immigration. In fact, Lowell was called the "Acropolis of America." Thousands of Greek families throughout the United States can trace their roots back to Lowell.

The Hellenic community of Lowell remains vibrant and engaged. For example, last month I held a community forum on the Cyprus dispute. The unlawful division of Cyprus has been a major foreign policy dilemma for N.A.T.O. and the State Department. This winter, a new United Nations plan and popular support on both sides of Cyprus for a settlement fostered intensive negotiations.

Because of the importance of this issue, I held a forum on the Cyprus negotiations. I'm often told that people do not care about international affairs until after a dispute has become an international crisis. This was proven wrong by the demonstrated interest of the Hellenic community in the Cyprus negotiations.

Those in attendance at the Cyprus forum belonged to such institutions as: Hellenic Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church, Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, St. George's Greek Orthodox Church, the Federation of Hellenic-American Societies of New England, Greek American Legion Post #1, the Mani Society, the Pan-Macedonian Association, the Pan-Laconian Federation, the Order of A.H.E.P.A., the Euorkos Society, the Sons and Daughters of Kastrakini, and the Pan-Messinian Federation, among other institutions.

The latest negotiations failed largely because the northern Cyprus obstructionist leader Rauf Denktash prevented the plan from being sent to the Turkish Cypriots for a referendum. This latest travesty by Mr. Denktash will only fuel the increasing distant between himself and the new, pro-settlement government of Turkey.

While frustrating to all, the negotiations went further than any prior negotiations. It is the continued interest and work of the Hellenic community that will raise awareness about Cyprus. I can think of no better living tribute to Greek Independence Day.

## RECOGNIZING THE "LOST THEATRES OF SOMERVILLE" PROJECT

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Somerville Museum on the "Lost Theatres of Somerville" project, a multifaceted exhibition of the architectural, commercial and cultural significance of fourteen movie theaters that were built and operated during the twentieth century.

This "Visual and Oral History of Somerville's Picture Palaces" is an in-depth portrait of Somerville's theatres through compilations of photographs, artifacts and other documents. The exhibit will juxtapose historic accounts of the theatres with present-day photos of the theatre sites.

In addition to the visual displays, a collection of oral histories will provide first-hand narratives about the legendary theaters of Somerville. Dr. Guss, a professor of Sociology and Anthropology at Tufts University, will conduct the oral history component of the exhibit. The Lost Theaters of Somerville display will also include a speaker series. Former theater employees, cultural geographers, anthropologists, and architectural and theatrical historians will share their memories and perceptions of Somerville's theatres.

The Somerville Museum will keep photographs of the theaters in its permanent archives of Somerville history, and oral history tapes will be held at the Somerville Public Library. Retaining these accounts ensures that the legacy of Somerville's twentieth century movie theaters will extend well into the twenty-first century.

Many thanks to the Lost Theaters of Somerville coordinators for the work they have done to document and preserve a very special aspect of Somerville's history.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION  
HONORING OPERATION RESPECT,  
THE "DON'T LAUGH AT ME"  
PROGRAM, AND PETER YARROW**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit a bipartisan resolution, together with seventeen of my colleagues in the House, recognizing the accomplishments of Operation Respect and of Peter Yarrow of Peter, Paul and Mary, who founded and helps to promote this outstanding program nationwide.

Operation Respect and its "Don't Laugh At Me" initiative are helping to promote anti-bullying, compassion and tolerance among children in after-school programs and children's camps. The "Don't Laugh At Me" program has been presented in 230 workshops in dozens of congressional districts. Over 18,000 educators in 27 states have received its training materials and professionally-developed curriculum. As we all know, Mr. Yarrow has described in words and song the program's goal and objective to enthusiastic meetings of the

Republican Conference and the Democratic Caucus of the United States House of Representatives.

The "Don't Laugh At Me" program uses character education to promote the social and emotional growth in children. When a child has fewer worries of bullying and intolerant classmates, that child is able to focus on schoolwork as well as create new bonds with fellow students. It is no wonder that teachers, parents and students alike have given very high marks to the "Don't Laugh At Me" program.

Many organizations have commended Operation Respect and the "Don't Laugh At Me" program, including the National Conference of State Legislatures, who passed a resolution in August of 2001 that recognized the value of Operation Respect. Major educational organizations supporting this important initiative include the National Association of Elementary School Principals, National Association of Secondary School Principals, American Association of School Administrators, Council of Great City Colleges of Education, National Education Association, Council of Great City Schools, American School Counselors Association, National School Boards Association, National Middle School Association, and the American Federation of Teachers.

The House should recognize the achievements of Operation Respect and Peter Yarrow in helping to make schools and camps safer, more tolerant, more learning-friendly environments for our children. I would hope that the House would be able to consider this bipartisan resolution in the near future.

## INNOCENTS IN UNIFORM

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to draw to the attention of my colleagues an article written by my friend Princeton Economist Uwe Reinhardt. Dr. Reinhardt is well known to many of us in Congress because of his expertise in health care policy. He's an advisor I rely on for his keen insights, knowledge, and his wit—not a characteristic identified in many health economists.

What many of my colleagues may not know is that Dr. Reinhardt and his wife, May, have a son who is serving in the U.S. Marines on the front lines in Iraq.

Dr. Reinhardt grew up in Germany and saw the horrors of war as a young boy there. His words deserve our attention. He's right. Our thoughts and prayers should extend to all involved in war and against any loss of human life—civilian, military, American or Iraqi.

I commend Dr. Reinhardt's article for your attention. His sentiments are ones I share completely and I thank him for being able to so eloquently say what many of us feel. I hope others will take his words to heart.

[From the New York Times, Mar. 22, 2003]

## INNOCENTS IN UNIFORM

(By Uwe E. Reinhardt)

PRINCETON, N.J.—CNN recently showed a Marine chaplain admonishing the platoon assembled before him: Pray not only for yourself, he told them, but for your enemies as well. After all, they are just soldiers, like you, doing what they are ordered to do.

What a refreshing departure these words were from what I've been hearing from the civilian sector, where the talk is mainly of minimizing coalition casualties or, in more generous moments, innocent Iraqi civilian casualties as well. I wince every time I hear that kind of talk, especially the reference to innocence. Should not the proper minimum in any war be loss of human life, period—which in this case includes Iraqi soldiers, too?

My earliest childhood memories were forged by war—real war. My family lived near one of the most ferocious battle grounds of the European war theater—the notorious Hürtgen forest, where American and German soldiers fought one another in hand-to-hand combat for more than four months in the fall of 1944. A plaque at one of the military cemeteries in the area notes that more American soldiers died there than in Vietnam, and surely as many or more German soldiers were killed there too.

My family lived opposite a convent that had been converted into a field hospital for the nearby front. I was a small boy then, and watching the ambulances come and go (sometimes peeking curiously into them), I could not help but become witness daily to the horrors of war. Millions of Europeans of my generation, whom many Americans now disparage so contemptuously as pacifists, had a similar experience.

Because we lived so near the Battle of the Bulge and the advancing, allied forces, our village was strafed and bombed routinely. One such attack came as my friends and I were playing outside. We ran as the planes approached, taking shelter in the cavernous basement of the convent. There we spied a row of stretchers. On each was a body covered entirely by a blanket. Possibly to overcome our own terror, we dared one another to pull back a blanket on one of the stretchers, to see what a dead man looked like. Someone did. We fell silent instantly as we beheld the serene, waxen face of a very young soldier who could not have been older than 16 or 17.

More than 50 years later, I can still see his face clearly. The shock of it recurs whenever I hear the chirpy anchors on the morning programs (not to mention the hawkish talking heads) prattle on about innocent civilians, as if the number of fallen enemy soldiers did not count. What does "innocent" mean in the context of war?

I am almost certain that the young German soldier my friends and I saw so many years ago in that convent basement was as innocent as those of us who weren't in uniform. For all we know, he had grown up on a farm somewhere and, while fighting in the trenches, dreamed of his girlfriend and of life as an adult in peaceful times. For all we know, he would have happily quit fighting and joined the allies. (He didn't have much of a choice: some German generals strung up on trees the bodies of young soldiers who had deserted, a powerful warning to their peers.)

Perhaps many of the Iraqi soldiers, too, find themselves where they are because they have no other choice. After all, is not Saddam Hussein a ruthless dictator, and are not some of his generals likely to be as cruel as their Wehrmacht counterparts?

My hope is that Americans can muster the proper decorum that an enterprise as horrible as war demands. There is nothing neat about maiming and killing people with precision bombs from the air or gunfire on the ground—even if they're wearing enemy uniforms. Young lives are snuffed out; parents, siblings and lovers weep, and so should we. We want our troops to win a quick victory, to be sure. As the father of a young Marine officer on the front lines in Iraq, I certainly do. But let us heed that Marine chaplain

who, like anyone who has ever witnessed war, knows whereof he speaks. Let us hope and pray for a minimum loss of human life—period.

**ELECTION OF ALICE P. MILLER AS  
PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF STATE ELEC-  
TION DIRECTORS**

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to inform my colleagues in the House of Representatives that on February 22, 2003, in Washington, D.C., Alice P. Miller, who is Executive Director of the D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics, was sworn-in as President of the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED).

That was an exceptional achievement, because the membership of NASED comprises the Election Directors of all of the 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

NASED is a non-partisan organization, whose members do not take stands on legislative matters. Those matters are left to elected officials to decide. NASED members are committed to conducting elections that are free, fair, and open, while maintaining the public trust.

Those of us in the Washington Metropolitan Area (D.C., Maryland and Virginia) have known about Alice's exceptional talents, integrity and leadership for many years. It is especially gratifying, however, that an organization that represents all 50 states and several Territories, also appreciates Mrs. Miller's fine attributes by electing her President of NASED.

I had the honor of welcoming this national organization to Washington recently and also enjoyed meeting the NASED leaders. I found them to be very knowledgeable and dedicated public officials who are certainly aware of the serious responsibilities that they have.

Mrs. Miller, a Washington, D.C. resident, is the first African American to be elected President of NASED and has served on the National Association's executive committee for four years.

She has represented NASED at Congressional hearings, including the 2001 Congressional Black Caucus hearing on election reform. That legislation culminated in the passage and signing of the historic Help America Vote Act of 2002.

Recently, Mrs. Miller, who is married and the mother of two children, was also named to serve on the board of directors of the Election Center. This organization promotes, preserves and improves democracy. Their members are government employees who serve in local voter registration and election administrative activities.

She is also a member of the board of the Center's Professional Education Program. Last year she was also appointed to the Federal Election Commission Advisory Board. Before she was appointed Executive Director of the D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics, Mrs. Miller served as the Board's General Counsel.

She was elected President of NASED at a very important time. The nation is hoping that

election reform will increase voter participation and also increase the trust of voters in protecting the integrity of the electoral process, which is vital in a democracy.

Mrs. Miller has done outstanding work at the D.C. Board of Elections, sometimes under trying conditions. For example, the Board conducted a flawless election with new machines that had never been used before when the two leading candidates for Mayor of the city were write-in candidates. Thus, Mrs. Miller's election to NASED begins with excellence at home.

I congratulate Mrs. Miller on her major national achievement and wish her the very best in her new and challenging responsibilities.

**RECOGNIZING MRS. "NELL"  
WRIGHT**

**HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER**

OF OHIO  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate, thank, and recognize my constituent Mrs. Neldleen "Nell" Wright. Nell is a testament to the innate goodness of human nature and the overwhelming positive effect one individual may have on the community.

As a wife, mother, and tireless volunteer in Ohio's Eighth Congressional District, Nell has quietly given much more than she has taken. Her work, as an employee with the Butler County Republican Party, over the past fifteen years has been a constant source of pride and unconditional praise. Nell's dedication is undoubtedly a major reason for the party's huge success.

Mr. Speaker, Nell's warm smile and gentle personality are known throughout Southwest Ohio. Her attitude, fierce determination, and community spirit are a constant source of energy for all those around her. So much of Nell's work is done quietly and without reward, and it is my honor to take this moment and say thank you to her. I congratulate Nell and wish her a very happy 80th birthday.

**TRIBUTE TO DON CASTLEBERRY**

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to an extraordinary professor, an esteemed colleague and dear friend, Don Castleberry. He recently passed away at his home in San Mateo, California on Sunday February 16, 2003, having lived a blessed and generous life.

Don was born December 2, 1914 in Hollis, Oklahoma and received his Bachelor's Degree from Central State College in Edmond, Oklahoma. He then attended the University of Oklahoma to obtain a Master's Degree and went on to the University of Minnesota where he received a Ph. D. in Political Science. During World War II, he bravely served his country as the Assistant Director of Civilian Relief Operations (CRO) for the American Red Cross in Russia and then as Director of CRO in Poland.

After returning from Europe, Don moved his family to California and began his remarkable career at San Francisco State University (SFSU). His extraordinary career at the University spanned a remarkable 31 years. During his tenure he taught political science and held a variety of administrative positions, the last of which as the Dean of the Graduate Division. Additionally, Don had the privilege of spending a year teaching at the American University in Beirut, Lebanon as a Fulbright Scholar in 1959.

Mr. Speaker, it is without exaggeration when I say Don was an exceptional influence on my life. In addition to being a splendid professor, Don was a dedicated advisor during my first Congressional campaign. In fact I have always viewed Don's keen insight, astounding intellect and courageous spirit as great assets that were crucial to my first Congressional victory. His passing has taken away one of San Mateo's favored sons and his contributions to the betterment of our local and national community will certainly be missed.

He is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Arline, his wonderful children Karen and Gerry, his grandchildren Samantha, Christopher, Timothy and William and his sister Beth. Mr. Speaker, my wife Annette and I are deeply grieved by Don's passing and I urge all of my colleagues to join us in offering our most sincere condolences to Arline and the rest of Castleberry family.

**TRIBUTE TO MARCUS C. HANSEN,  
BUSINESS LEADER AND PATRIOT**

**HON. CURT WELDON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Marcus C. Hansen is one leader whose accomplishments and dedication to both his vision and values have gained him the respect and admiration of individuals across this great country. It is a privilege to take this opportunity to recognize his outstanding leadership as President of Lockheed Martin Management & Data Systems (M&DS). Under Mr. Hansen's leadership for the past six years, M&DS—a \$2.3 billion business unit of the Lockheed Martin Corporation headquartered in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania—has contributed vitally to the proud history of Lockheed Martin. It has been both a great honor and a distinct pleasure to work with Marc over the years, and I salute him for his unwavering dedication to our country, citizens and economy.

On March 31, 2003, Mr. Hansen will retire as President of Lockheed Martin Management & Data Systems (M&DS). Mr. Hansen had responsibility for all aspects of the organization's business, including management of more than 8,000 employees. The company's record under his leadership speaks for itself: outstanding execution, disciplined growth and unquestionable commitment to customer and corporate success. Under his tenure, M&DS has truly grown into a world-class organization that values its customers, employees, and the community. Mr. Hansen is often described by his peers as a strong leader who is able to motivate those around him to continued success. Over the years, I have seen first-hand his ability to inspire, and I applaud his talents and dedication.

Since he became president of M&DS in 1997, the company has met or exceeded its financial goals every year while increasing sales from \$1 billion to over \$2 billion. Under Mr. Hansen's leadership, M&DS has received several business awards and distinctions, including the highest technical accreditation ever accorded a single company, SEI SE/SW CMMI Maturity level 5 from the Carnegie Mellon Institute. Computerworld magazine also featured the company as one of the "Top 100 Best Places to Work in IT" for the last two years.

Mr. Hansen directed a broad array of information technology business areas with capabilities in system engineering and integration, architectural definition, and large-scale data and information software systems design, development and implementation. Additionally, major elements of the company are engaged in system operations, maintenance and enhancement at customer facilities.

Mr. Hansen's business philosophy is driven by his unwavering commitment to the highest ethical standards. He strongly believes that if you genuinely care about your customers and help them succeed, you succeed. To maintain competitiveness, Mr. Hansen believes a company must attract and retain the best employees and create an environment that allows them to flourish.

Mr. Hansen began his career in 1968 with GE Aerospace (GEA) in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. In 1974, he became program manager supporting the Landsat satellite system. In 1977, he joined Management & Data Systems where he held a number of increasingly responsible engineering and program management positions. In 1988, Mr. Hansen took on the assignment of managing GEA's Aerospace Information Technology component. In 1989, he transferred to Syracuse, New York as General Manager of Engineering, Ocean and Radar Systems, and in 1992 he assumed the same position at Government Electronic Systems in Moorestown, New Jersey.

In January 1994, Mr. Hansen returned to M&DS as vice president, Requirements Management Systems, and in March 1995 assumed the role of executive vice president of M&DS. Mr. Hansen was then named president of Management & Data Systems in March 1997.

With his career at M&DS near its end, Mr. Hansen said that if he could leave just one thing behind, it would be M&DS Guiding Principles or what he calls "the right stuff"—his recipe for a world-class business. He urged employees to read, understand and personalize them, and he encouraged them to make certain that decisions are made in the best interest of the country, the customer and the corporation.

Mr. Speaker, fellow colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to the exemplary accomplishments of Mr. Marcus C. Hansen, for his achievements as a business leader and patriot who exemplifies the spirit that has made this country great. I wish Marc continued success as he utilizes his energies and talents in new and exciting ways. I wish Marc and his wife Cheryl much happiness in the future.

TRIBUTE TO MR. VINCENT L. BARILE, DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY FOR MEMORIAL AFFAIRS

### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Vincent L. Barile, Deputy Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, who retired after 28 years of service at the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA.

Vince began his career with VA in 1975 as a veterans' benefits counselor. In 1976, he transferred to the Budget Service in VA's central office. From 1979 to 1984, he served as a budget analyst in the Veterans Health Administration, where he rose to supervisor of budget formulation and operations.

In 1984, Vince joined the National Cemetery Administration, NCA, as the director of budget and planning. In this position he was responsible for the formulation and implementation of the annual budget, all planning activities, and other activities including emergency preparedness, energy conservation and safety programs. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs promoted Vince to Deputy Under Secretary for Management for NCA in 1990.

In 2002, Vince was appointed Deputy Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs. In this capacity, Vince oversaw budget and planning, information systems, communications, human resources, administration, contracting, memorial programs, state cemetery grants, and operations and construction for 120 national cemeteries. Vince testified before the Veterans' Affairs Committee frequently on memorial affairs issues, where he brought extensive knowledge and experience to the witness table.

When asked what they will remember most about Vince Barile, employees he supervised say that he was a mentor and a teacher. He often conducted impromptu sessions in the hallways, always credited his employees for their work, and helped them find opportunities to learn. As evidence of the high regard he had for his employees, Vince summed up his remarks at his farewell party by saying that his Exceptional Service Award was not his award, but one in recognition of all his employees. He noted that if his career was considered successful, it was because of the people who worked for and with him. He then applauded his staff.

With Vince's retirement, VA is losing vast institutional knowledge and a real friend to America's veterans. Thank you, Vince, for your 28 years of dedicated service to the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Nation.

### HONORING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE U.S. ARMED FORCES

### HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, the United States of America is the proud home to the best trained, most versatile, and most committed voluntary military force in the world.

The men and women of our armed forces defend our lives, our freedom, and our loved

ones at a moment's notice, without question. This incredible commitment provides an incalculable benefit to the citizens of the United States of America; for this, I rise today on behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Florida to say thank you.

There is a tremendous sense of patriotism among those in the military. These men and women answer a call to duty that often means the difference between life and death. The men and women of our armed forces are the first sent to confront the unknown; they face danger until the last threat is gone.

This unwavering commitment to defending our freedom extends beyond asking our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines for their duty; this commitment includes asking their parents, their spouses, and their children to stay strong while they are fighting for freedom on a foreign shore.

To the men and women of our Armed Forces, thank you. Your sacrifice is priceless. Your dedication is greatly appreciated.

### HONORING SHERIFF C.A. "PELK" RICHARDS

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sheriff C.A. "Pelk" Richards for his commitment and dedication to the Mariposa County Law Enforcement. On Friday, May 2nd his retirement will be celebrated at Sheriff C.A. "Pelk" Richards' Retirement Dinner in Mariposa, California.

Pelk Richards has been an active member of the community throughout his life. He is a Mariposa native who was born in San Diego and raised in Mariposa County. Pelk graduated from Mariposa County High School and married his high school sweetheart, Dorothy. In his younger years, he was a steer and team roper while taking part in the Triangle Roping Club and the California Cowboys Association.

On July 1, 1972 Mr. Richards joined the Mariposa County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy Sheriff/Jailer. Pelk was very progressive and worked his way up the rank structure at the Sheriff's Office. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1977 while receiving the Outstanding Sergeant Award, and again promoted to Commander in 1985 and later moved up to Under-sheriff in 1990. Pelk was sworn in as Mariposa's 21st Sheriff in January of 1999.

During his career, Sheriff Richards solved all homicides assigned to him and was deemed to be a Court expert in Narcotics. In 1990, he was awarded the "J. Edgar Hoover" Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award. Pelk was also responsible for writing 417(b) California Penal Code-Protecting Peace Officers Legislation. Immediately after taking office, Sheriff Richards gathered his command staff and created a Mission, Vision, and Value Statement which held to the mission "to control, prevent, and reduce crimes in all our communities, while being courteous, professional, and respectful." He also developed a Terrorism Response Plan for Mariposa County in response to the terrorist attacks of September 11th.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Sheriff C.A. "Pelk" Richards for his dedication to

Mariposa County. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Sheriff C.A. "Pelk" Richards many more years of success.

#### A TRIBUTE TO NANCY RIVARD

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to pay tribute to one of my most extraordinary constituents, a beacon of kindness in the world, Ms. Nancy Rivard. This outstanding woman is a former airline attendant who single-handedly founded the Airline Ambassadors International (AAI), an extraordinary non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of needy children from all over the world.

Ms. Rivard's desire to establish this organization, dedicated to making a difference in the lives of needy children began over ten years ago. After years of trial, turmoil and rejection her dream finally became a reality when AAI was founded in 1996. Every year this wonderful organization makes a difference in the lives of over 100,000 children in 25 of the world's most troubled countries by having its members hand-deliver food, clothing, medicine, school supplies and personal care products directly to the children in the receiving countries. Since its inception AAI has seen the ranks of its volunteers grow to more than 400 people who have contributed over 600,000 hours of their time.

Mr. Speaker, this remarkable organization is made up of 4 different components. First, the Humanitarian Aid Program coordinates the local effort to collect and sort humanitarian and medical supplies. Volunteers arrange the pick up and packing of donations and then with the help of a participating airline, they ship the items to the countries that are currently receiving aid. From there the donations are hand-delivered directly to the children. The volunteers also are involved with facility refurbishing, holiday parties and planting trees. Second is the Children's Escort Program, which supplies volunteer escorts for children in need of medical care in the United States. AAI provides the adoption agency or nonprofit organization with a previously screened and qualified escort at a significantly reduced airfare. The child's airfare is provided through the "Miles for Kids" program. The third component is the Youth Programs. These programs give young people the chance to be involved in the humanitarian missions, a unique opportunity that offers adolescences the chance to help needy kids their own age and experience kindness and compassion on a whole new level. AAI also co-sponsors an annual youth art competition that has received entries from over 60,000 children in approximately 62 countries. Finally, the fourth component of AAI involves members volunteering at special events, locally, nationally and internationally with goals to better the world and bring good-will into action.

Mr. Speaker, Nancy Rivard's tireless work has helped countless children in their time of need. Her selflessness, passion and drive have not only given the world's needy children the chance to experience things they had only dreamed of, but more importantly, she has given these children a glimmer of hope. Her

plan to build Airline Ambassadors into an organization of even more strength and ability is an ambitious plan, one that should be applauded. Nancy was recently presented with a well-deserved "National Caring Award" for her accomplishments with AAI.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to say that this remarkable woman is one of my longtime constituents and it delights me to think that I am representing such a fine example of the American people. I urge all my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Nancy Rivard, for this exceptional woman is truly an inspiration to all of us, proving that one person can make a difference.

#### COMMENDING THE ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION ON THE ISSUE OF TAIWAN

### HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, Secretary of State Powell was in Beijing recently, asking for Beijing's assistance on the issues of North Korea and Iraq. Beijing responded by asking the Bush Administration to consider "trade-offs," especially more American flexibility on the issue of Taiwan. I want to commend Secretary Powell and the Bush Administration for refusing to participate in this sort of irresponsible horse-trading.

We continue to support peaceful solution to any political disagreements between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan. At the same time, Congress has repeatedly voiced its commitment to defend the people of Taiwan from aggression, and we have backed this commitment with economic, political and military cooperation. I believe that this Administration has done an exemplary job of reinforcing this commitment by refusing to compromise Taiwan's security in the face of Beijing's attempts at coercion.

Meanwhile, Beijing has turned a deaf ear to Taiwan President Chen Shui-Bian's calls for renewed dialogue between the two. This lack of communication will certainly result in misunderstanding, and could lead to dangerous miscalculations by both sides. These sorts of miscalculations can in turn lead to the sort of military confrontation that we all wish to avoid. I therefore strongly urge Beijing's new leadership to remove Chinese missiles from the area along the Taiwan Strait and to embrace a peaceful approach to managing the cross-strait relationship.

It is time for bilateral dialogue on economic cooperation, democratic governance, improved human rights and peaceful resolution of all issues between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION

### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I know that all Members of the

House of Representatives will want to join me in saluting the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA) on the 100th anniversary of its founding. LIUNA, through its millions of members over the years, has long played a vital role in building America through the construction of highways, bridges, dams and power plants, factories, office buildings, schools, churches, hospitals, apartments, and houses throughout the country.

The first president of the AFL-CIO, Samuel Gompers, convened the meeting in April, 1903, that resulted in the creation of the International Hod Carriers' and Building Laborers' Union of America. That union represented just 8,000 workers. In 1965, the name was changed to the Laborers' International Union of North America to reflect the expansion of the union beyond the construction field.

Today, LIUNA consists of approximately 800,000 members in more than 650 locals throughout the country. LIUNA members work in a wide variety of fields including local, state and federal governments, health care, shipbuilding and hazardous waste removal.

LIUNA is one of the most innovative unions in the labor movement, with state of the art training centers across North America. LIUNA has repeatedly demonstrated its commitment to protecting the rights of laborers and is among the most successful unions at organizing within the labor federation today.

LIUNA's success is predicated on the protection and promotion of its members—goals that are achieved through the dedication and hard work of union officers and their representatives working at all levels of government. The efforts of these men and women to protect and enhance the welfare of LIUNA's members serves to better the lives of all workers throughout the United States.

LIUNA's efforts to raise the standard of living for laborers are deserving of our attention and admiration. This is an extraordinary union whose leadership works hard every day to protect members' health and safety, provide laborers a strong voice in the workplace, provide extensive skill training to empower members to reach their full potential, and perhaps most importantly, to ensure dignity, respect and security for laborers in the workplace.

Mr. Speaker, I join LIUNA's officers and members in celebrating their 100th Anniversary, and I salute the work of the Laborers International Union of North America. I encourage my colleagues to similarly respect the positive impacts LIUNA has had within their home districts and states, and I encourage them to express their support of this historic anniversary.

#### 182 YEARS OF FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE IN GREECE

### HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the 182 years that have passed since the Greek people's revolution from the Ottoman Empire. Nearly 400 years ago, the Greek people embarked on a powerful revolution against the Ottoman oppressors. As Bishop Germanos of Patras raised the Greek flag at Agia Lavras following the fall of Constantinople, the ancient Greeks forged a mighty wave of democracy and freedom.

Long after the triumphs of 1821, Greece continues to prove itself as a loyal ally of the United States and an internationally recognized advocate of democracy. Greece is one of only three nations in the world beyond those of the former British Empire to be allied with the United States in every major international conflict of the 20th century. I have little doubt this impressive and dependable relationship will continue throughout the 21st century and beyond. In the Balkans, Greece has played a steady hand of democracy in the face of regional unrest and instability.

As we continue in our efforts to free the world of terrorism, Greece again stands firm with the United States. Our efforts in the war against terror would not be as successful without the continued assistance from our allies in Greece. Greece's reliability as a stable democracy and key NATO ally is critical in our efforts to advocate international peace and stability.

As we celebrate 182 years of freedom and independence, I salute and thank the Greek people for their spirit and their ongoing pursuit of peace. To Greece, a free and democratic ally: "Cronia polla hellas".

COMMENDING THE NEW YORK  
CITY COUNCIL'S EFFORTS AT  
SUPPORTING PEACE

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, as we begin an unjust invasion of Iraq, I think that it is appropriate that this chamber hears from citizens and leaders on the local level, and not just the representatives of the Administration.

Last week, on March 12, 2003, the New York City Council courageously passed resolution 549-A, condemning current plans for an invasion of Iraq. They did so representing their constituents, who have made it abundantly clear through letters, faxes, emails and public protests, that the costs are too great and the evidence too suspect to support an invasion. The resolution represents the voice of the people of our great city.

I applaud the majority of the members of the Council for their principled fight for peace and diplomacy. I commend them for resisting the tempting safety of silence and risk being unfairly labeled and misunderstood as "unpatriotic."

We live in a time where no one wants to challenge our foreign policy decisions for fear of being perceived not supportive of freedom or of our brave men and women who poised for the invasion of Iraq. However, when history records where elected leaders were at the time that this fateful decision between war and international cooperation was made, it will be clear that it was the City Council of New York who stood strongly as voices for peace.

I invite you to read excerpts of their resolution, so that it can be clear why the elected representatives of the citizens of the City of New York, still recovering from the attack of September 11, believe that real peace and democracy should be secured by law, not force.

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION URGING  
MILITARY RESTRAINT IN IRAQ

Resolution calling on the government of the United States to make all efforts to

work through the United Nations Security Council in a manner that would reaffirm our Nation's commitment to the rule of law and the primacy of human rights in our international relationships, and to take all appropriate steps toward securing the participation of other nations and international bodies in the effort to ensure that Iraq does not possess biological, chemical or nuclear weapons and toward promoting human rights for all the people of Iraq; and further calling on the government of the United States to work through the United Nations Security Council and with other nations to ensure the unimpeded access of United Nations weapons inspectors to all areas of and facilities in Iraq and to ensure that the inspectors be given a full and fair opportunity to conduct their efforts in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolutions; and further calling upon the Council of the City of New York to oppose a pre-emptive military attack on Iraq unless it is demonstrated that Iraq poses a real and imminent threat to the security and safety of the United States or its allies or unless other options for achieving compliance with United Nations resolutions calling for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and the means for their development have failed.

By Council Members Perkins, Baez, Barron, Boyland, Brewer, Clarke, Comrie, Davis, DeBlasio, Dilan, Espada, Foster, Gerson, Gioia, González, Jackson, Koppell, Liu, Lopez, Martinez, the Speaker (Council Member Miller), Monserrate, Moskowitz, Quinn, Reed, Reyna, Sanders, Seabrook, Serrano, Stewart, Vann and Yassky.

Whereas, The manner in which the United States government is responding to the crisis involving Iraq has caused great concern among many New Yorkers, resulting in one of the largest public demonstrations in the history of the City of New York on February 15, 2003; and

Whereas, The Council of the City of New York is the locally elected voice of the people of the City of New York; and

Whereas, Saddam Hussein has violated United Nations resolutions requiring his government to destroy biological, chemical and nuclear weapons, cease the development of such weapons and permit international inspection of all areas and facilities to ensure compliance with such resolutions; and

Whereas, Although international weapons inspections barred by Iraq in 1998 have been reinstituted in response to international pressure, particularly from the United States, there is evidence that despite some cooperation, Iraq is not fully complying with United Nations resolutions; and

Whereas, It is imperative that Iraq not be allowed to possess, use or export biological, chemical or nuclear weapons, or weapons of terror; and that Iraq fully comply with United Nations resolutions; and

Whereas, Since taking power in 1979, Saddam Hussein's regime has committed human rights violations against the Iraqi people on a massive scale—documented by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and others—and we condemn these crimes and the ongoing oppression of the Iraqi people, including the Kurdish, Shiite and the other minority groups; and

Whereas, It is in the interest of all nations, including the United States, that threats to world peace and violations of human rights be dealt with in accordance with international law and, whenever possible, on a multilateral basis; and

Whereas, A pre-emptive United States military attack on Iraq, absent a real and imminent threat to the security and safety of the United States or its allies and absent the support of the international community would violate our commitments to the United Nations charter; and

Whereas, War has grave repercussions in terms of loss of life; and

Whereas, While it is difficult to project the financial costs of war, a thorough analysis published by the National Bureau of Economic Research estimates that the total cost of invasion, occupation, peace-keeping, reconstruction, nation-building and necessary humanitarian assistance might range from \$150 to \$750 billion;

Whereas, Such cost would place an enormous strain on our nation's ability to maintain the infrastructure, human services and social programs necessary for our nation's security, general welfare and progress; and

Whereas, It has not been substantiated that all other means of disarming Saddam Hussein in accordance with United Nations resolutions have been attempted and have failed; and

Whereas, The United States government has not articulated how a military attack would result in the formation of an Iraqi government that rejects the development of nuclear, biological or chemical weapons and promotes freedom and democracy; and

Whereas, In the event that our armed forces are called into combat in Iraq, we recognize, honor and appreciate the commitment, service and valor of our military personnel, and together with their families, we fervently hope for their safe return; and

Whereas, This resolution speaks of the United States' response to the current crisis involving Iraq and does not address any action the United States might take in response to any future humanitarian crisis; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the government of the United States should make all efforts to work through the United Nations Security Council in a manner that would reaffirm our nation's commitment to the rule of law and the primacy of human rights in our international relationships, and should take all appropriate steps toward securing the participation of other nations and international bodies in the effort to ensure that Iraq does not possess biological, chemical or nuclear weapons and toward promoting human rights for all the people of Iraq; and be it further

Resolved, That the government of the United States should work through the United Nations Security Council and with other nations to ensure the unimpeded access of United Nations weapons inspectors to all areas of and facilities in Iraq and to ensure that the inspectors be given a full and fair opportunity to conduct their efforts in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolutions; and be it further

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York opposes a preemptive military attack on Iraq unless it is demonstrated that Iraq poses a real and imminent threat to the security and safety of the United States or its allies or unless all other options for achieving compliance with United Nations resolutions calling for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and the means for their development have failed.

IN MEMORY OF MARINE LANCE  
CORPORAL THOMAS SLOCUM OF  
THORNTON, CO

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I learned today that Colorado has suffered its first casualty in the war on Iraq. Lance Corporal Thomas Slocum was one of nine Marines killed near Al Nasiriyah on Sunday,

March 23, in an ambush. Another forty Marines were wounded in the fight. My heart goes out to Lance Corporal Slocum's family and friends.

Thomas Slocum was based at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina but called Thornton, Colorado, his home. He was just 22 years old at the time of his death—so young, but old enough to have developed the courage and dedication it took for him to answer the call to service. He was a brave and dedicated Marine who proudly served when his nation called on him to fight in the war against Iraq to bring freedom and justice to that country.

The death of Lance Corporal Slocum brings this war closer to home for us all. All Coloradans, and indeed all Americans share in the pain of Lance Corporal Slocum's death, but we also share in honoring his unswerving dedication to our great nation. He will forever be remembered for his heroism and his sacrifice.

APPRECIATING DR. GURMIT SINGH  
AULAKH FOR BRINGING PLIGHT  
OF SIKHS, OTHER MINORITIES  
TO INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, for 17 years, Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh has been serving the Sikhs in this country and worldwide, first as President of the International Sikh Organization, a post in which he still serves, and later as President of the Council of Khalistan, which came into being when Sikhs declared their independence from India on October 7, 1987. He has been a tireless worker for the rights of Sikhs and other minorities in India, such as Christians, Muslims, Dalits (the dark-skinned "Untouchables," the aboriginal people of South Asia), and others. Many of us in Congress have helped to expose the tyranny and terrorism that India has practiced against these groups and Dr. Aulakh has been a friend and an invaluable source of information to us.

Sikhs are a separate nation and they ruled Punjab from 1710 to 1716 and again from 1765 to 1849. They are working to reclaim their lost sovereignty. They face persecution and terror for doing so.

Dr. Aulakh's efforts and the support of those who back him have been crucial in bringing the Sikh struggle to the attention of the international community. He has worked with us in this House to the true and accurate history of the Sikh struggle and the struggles of other minorities in India. In these efforts he has been opposed by the Indian government, which has spent large amounts of money to counteract his efforts and spread disinformation. They even started a rumor on the Internet that he was dead. He has a tough job trying to achieve freedom for the Sikh Nation against the opposition of the Indian government.

Even in the U.S. Congress, the Indian government has formed the Indian Caucus, which has 139 members, to support India and deflect our attention away from the oppression and terror there. He has done a yeoman job in exposing the brutal oppression of the Indian gov-

ernment against the Sikh Nation which has killed over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984. Another 50,000 Sikhs were arrested by the police, tortured, murdered, and then declared "unidentified bodies" and secretly cremated. He has brought to the attention of Congress that even at present, 52,268 Sikh political prisoners are rotting in Indian jails as political prisoners, according to the Movement Against State Repression.

Dr. Aulakh has been tireless in promoting self-determination, which is the cornerstone of democracy. He has been a relentless advocate for the cause of Sikh freedom and the independence of their homeland, Punjab, Khalistan.

Like those of us in Congress, Dr. Aulakh knows and appreciates the privilege of service. Service is essential to the Sikh religion as it is to all religions.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to salute Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh.

STATEMENT ON KASHMIR  
VIOLENCE

**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my outrage at the hideous and deplorable terrorist attack in the hamlet village Nadimarg south of Srinagar, in the Indian State of Jammu-Kashmir. I am deeply shocked and saddened by the killings. As we fight against terrorism in the Middle East and Afghanistan, we have to remember that the people of India deal with terrorism every single day. I condemn this hideous crime which represents a most despicable, inhumane act of terror. My feelings and thoughts are with the victims and their families.

The attacks of the gunmen killed nearly half of the people living in the village. 24 Hindus known as Pandits lost their lives, including women and children. Most sadly, Suraj Kumar was killed only hours after celebrating his second birthday. His cousin, who was age 2 as well, was also gunned down.

The attack is an attempt to destroy the conflict resolution endeavors in the region, but violence is no path to bring peace to Kashmir. Although the identity of the gunmen is unknown at this point, it is highly likely that Islamic militants are involved in these actions as part of their efforts to expel Hindus from the valley.

In fact, this is not the first time as Islamic militants have conducted similar attacks in the past leading to an exodus of Hindus from the region. More than 300,000 Hindus have already been forced to leave Kashmir after Islamic militants commenced fighting against Indian rule in 1989. While many Hindus remain, increasing terrorist attacks have meant that they never truly feel completely secure. In fact, the Pandit families who live in Nadimarg had good relations with their Muslim neighbors, and their Muslim neighbors felt the same acute loss and pain that the Hindu community felt as well on this senseless attack.

Last year, President Musharraf pledged to President Bush that he would end Islamic militant incursions in Kashmir and that he would

terminate cross-border infiltration. Obviously, the Pakistani President has not kept his promise. Much more needs to be done to protect all communities in Jammu-Kashmir from terrorism and violence. As the snow in the Himalayas starts to melt, and travel between the mountain passes becomes easier, it is more important than ever that President Musharraf redoubles his effort to control Pakistani incursions into India.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND AP-  
PRECIATION FOR THE PRESI-  
DENT AND MEMBERS OF THE  
ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATING  
IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 20, 2003*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, we are at war in Iraq. In the past, when our President has made the decision to commit to the use of force, the Congress has always come together to speak with one voice, for one purpose: to support the efforts of our troops, and to pray for their courage, their success, and their safe and quick return home.

While I have stated my own opposition in the past to military intervention without our allies in the United Nations, and I have heard from thousands of constituents who shared those reservations about unilateral action, I today stand solidly behind our men and women in uniform.

As the debate over whether or not to go to war with Iraq has been in the forefront in the minds of many Americans, there is one segment of our society that has been relatively overshadowed. Military families. For the past seven months, as we debated our policy in Iraq, I have heard from mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, aunts and uncles, cousins and friends, who have been concerned about a loved one being sent overseas to fight this war. They asked me, "Congressman, when we go to war, will you and the others support our troops when they are over there?" I pledged to do exactly that, and I honor that promise today as their loved one enters the dangerous phase of the war.

More than anything, these young Americans need to know they have the backing of their fellow countrymen as they carry out their missions. As a member of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, I have heard from many that recall their service who have recalled there was no greater asset to company morale than the knowledge that their citizens in the United States stood behind them.

New Mexico has many young people that are currently involved in the Iraqi effort. Our three Air Force Bases—Cannon, Holloman, and Kirtland—have deployed over 1,000 personnel to the Middle East. These are not faceless, nameless machines. These are people that have left loved ones behind. New Mexicans are proud of these men and women, along with other Americans from all fifty states that are participating in the endeavor.

Our prayers are with them, and we look forward to their speedy success and return home. I have tremendous confidence in the men and women of our armed services to bring this conflict to a successful conclusion.

Yet, this support for the effort is accompanied by a deep sense of anxiety and concern. Mr. Speaker, nobody wants war.

The death, destruction and misery of war are things that we should never ignore and we cannot forget. When our troops are called to defend our nation and international peace, we do so with a heavy heart but strong confidence that we will prevail.

While I remain unequivocal in my support of these men and women, I am deeply disappointed that the House Republican leadership has chosen to bring forward such a divisive resolution to the floor. Unlike our colleagues in the Senate, who passed a non-controversial and bipartisan resolution in their chamber earlier this evening, the House Republican leadership has chosen to craft a resolution with some provisions that are troubling. It is clear that even during a war, the Speaker and his team will continue to play political games.

It is obvious that Republican leaders are hoping that by including contentious language they can break apart the unity that I believe the House has for our troops. Despite some of my concerns over some of this maneuvering, my support of our New Mexico men and women and the ones they have left behind far outweighs that.

My thoughts and prayers are with our armed forces personnel and their families. At this time of national crisis, our troops and their families must know that their nation is behind them, they are forever our heroes, and they have our full support.

I also want to reassure our future veterans that I will continue to work throughout my tenure in Congress to maintain and expand the benefits that they and their families have earned. The benefits these men and women earn are but a small gesture of repayment for sacrifices and courage that can never be quantified.

Mr. Speaker, I hope this conflict is over as quickly as possible, with the least number of casualties on both sides. I yearn for nothing more than a peaceful and prosperous future for America, Iraq, and the entire world.

#### A CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER REMEMBERED

#### HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, Audrey Yvette Wall Augustus was born on November 3, 1956, at Saint Agnes Hospital in Raleigh, North Carolina. She departed this life and entered into eternal rest on Saturday, March 1, 2003, with her loving, devoted husband holding her hand. Audrey was the eldest child born to Richmond Wall, Jr. and Lydia Thomas Wall.

"Little Audrey", as she was affectionately known, was named after her father's sister. When she was two years old, the family moved to Washington, DC. Audrey was educated in the District of Columbia and Prince Georges County Public School Systems. She graduated from Largo High School in 1975. Following in the footsteps of her mother, Lydia and her Godmother, Nurry, Audrey became a "Bennett Belle" when she enrolled at Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina. In the

Spring of 1977, she pledged Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. She established a legacy of love, strength, endurance, patience, courage and enthusiasm and became a beacon of light for all to follow. In 1979, Audrey graduated from Bennett College with a degree in Early Childhood Education and a minor in Library Science. Her love for children was evident in her everyday life, and her home was always a popular gathering place for them.

Audrey joined the United States Capitol Police Department on October 5, 1981, and achieved the rank of Private First Class (PFC). As an educator, she sought and became an instructor in the Capitol Police Training Academy in August 1991, thru June 2001. She taught over 1,000 of the men and women that currently protect and serve the United States Congress today. She shared her enthusiasm and gave of herself until her untimely death.

Audrey leaves to cherish her memory: her husband Kevin A. Augustus; also a Capitol Police Officer since, February 21, 1978. Daughters, Ashli Kai-Leen Jordan, Aysha Monaye Jordan; son Kevin A. Augustus, Jr.; parents, Richmond Wall Jr. and Lydia T. Wall; sister, Adrienne M. Wall; brother, Richmond Wall, Jr.; aunts, June Swindell (Richard), Norma Haywood (David L), Audrey Wall, Nurry Johnson (John), Mary Jeffries and Bes-sie Morgan (Ed); cousins, Denise Brown (Freddie) and Marielle Posey (Derrick); sister-in-law, Bonnie Claggett; father-in-law, Alfred A. Augustus; nephews, Derek Augustus and Michael "Mikey" Claggett; niece Joy Peterson; devoted friends and guardian angles; Liz Harris, LaMont Lewis, Anita Stoddard, Sherri Morgan, Beverly Davis, JoAnne Morgan; and Godmothers, Kimberley Scott and Mischelle Corbin.

To all who were blessed to know her, Audrey will be remembered as the kindest, most gentle soul.

#### RECOGNIZING BARBARA KELLY

#### HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Barbara Kelly who was recently awarded the Humanitarian Award from the Milbury Democratic Committee. Mrs. Kelly was chosen for her active work for the Democratic Party and her continuous dedication to its principles.

Mrs. Kelly is a close friend of mine, and she has helped out on my campaigns for Congress. She is also a dedicated supporter of the party and a salient activist for the core principles the party represents. She had demonstrated her willingness and commitment by volunteering much of her time to tedious campaign work.

In addition to her work for the Democratic Party, Mrs. Kelly has been a leading advocate for social causes. She is active in the fight for access to health care. She is a leading voice on behalf of our senior citizens. Specifically, Mrs. Kelly has looked for ways to lessen the tax burden that plagues our seniors. She has fought for single payer health insurance. Mrs. Kelly has worked hard to lower the cost of prescription drugs.

In addition to her work in the Democratic Party, Mrs. Kelly is active in many local organizations. She served as president of MSAC, the Massachusetts Senior Action Council and received its "Unsung Hero Award." Mrs. Kelly is currently a member of the Women's Club; she has worked with Alzheimer's patients; she is a senior companion; and she is active in St. Brigid's and St. John's parishes.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call Mrs. Kelly a friend. I am confident that the entire U.S. House of Representatives joins me in congratulating her for a lifetime of service.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, on February 13, 2003, I was unavoidably absent for two rollcall votes, due to the death of a family member.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 31 (Obey motion to recommit on H.J. Res. 2), and 32 (Final Passage of the Conference Report to Accompany H.J. Res. 2, the Fiscal Year 2003 Omnibus Appropriations Bill).

#### DISMAY OVER THE END OF U.N. NEGOTIATIONS IN CYPRUS

#### HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Hellenic Caucus, I rise to register my dismay that negotiations between the President of Cyprus, Tassos Papadopoulos, and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash on a United Nations settlement plan to reunite Cyprus ended two weeks ago without a final outcome.

Mr. Denkash has put most of the blame on his own shoulders for this lost opportunity. By not allowing the Turkish Cypriots to vote on the U.S. settlement plan by a referendum, Mr. Denkash has made the decision for the Turkish Cypriots that they will not live under the European Union's laws or reap its economic benefits. Mr. Denkash should not just look at this as a personal matter, or even as a dispute between Turkey and Greece, but should rather take into consideration what is the right choice for the people of Cyprus.

As may other members have expressed, I do not want the recent reunification talks, the fourth attempt since the Turkish invasion of Northern Cyprus in 1974, to end in an impasse. The U.S. settlement cleared a path for all of Cyprus to unite once again, to share in the European Union's prosperity, and to end military zones. Now with just the Republic of Cyprus poised and ready for membership into the EU in 2004, a deeper divide between the two sides may grow without a push for future negotiations.

The United States must continue its role in supporting negotiations so that there is still potential for all of Cyprus to join the EU. Consequently, I recently sent a letter to President Bush asking that we continue to encourage reunification negotiations in Cyprus. Although

frustration levels at this point are high, the United States should still play a positive and supportive role that will lead to a final Cyprus settlement. I urge Congress to continue to support Cyprus' membership to the European Union and the United Nation's settlement plan.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, last week Colorado experienced a very heavy snowstorm—in fact, it was a blizzard in many areas. This was good news for our state, which has been suffering from a serious drought. However, it seriously interfered with travel. As a result, I was unable to be present for votes on several measures. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall No. 65, H. Con. Res. 26—Condemning the punishment of execution by stoning as a gross violation of human rights—I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall No. 66, H.R. 868—Nicaragua Property Dispute Settlement Act of 2003—I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall No. 67, H. Res. 109—Urging passage of a resolution addressing human rights in North Korea at the 59th session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, and calling on the Government of North Korea to respect and protect the human rights of its citizens—I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall No. 68, H.R. 314—Mortgage Servicing Clarification Act (Royce Financial Services)—I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall No. 69, H.R. 417—Cibola Wildlife Refuge Boundary Correction—I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall No. 70, H.R. 699—To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a comprehensive study of the Rathdrum Prairie/Spokane Valley Aquifer, located in Idaho and Washington—I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall No. 71, the Sherman amendment to H.R. 975 (bankruptcy bill), I would have voted “no.”

On rollcall No. 72, the Nadler amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 975 (bankruptcy bill), I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall No. 73, the Jackson-Lee motion to recommit H.R. 975 (bankruptcy bill), I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall No. 74, passage of H.R. 975 (bankruptcy bill), I would have voted “no.”

On rollcall No. 75, on approving the Journal, I would have voted “no.”

On rollcall No. 76, H.R. 1307—To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a special rule for members of the uniformed services in determining the exclusion of gain from the sale of a principal residence and to restore the tax exempt status of death gratuity payments to members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes—I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall No. 77, H. Res. 132—Expressing the sense of the House that the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruling in *Newdow v. United States Congress* is inconsistent with the Supreme Court's interpretation of the first amendment and should be overturned, and for

other purposes—I would have voted “present.”

I would have voted that way because I am not a lawyer and have not studied the relevant decisions of the Supreme court—and so I do not think it would be appropriate for me to say that the cited decision of the Court of Appeals is inconsistent with those decisions.

Last year, I voted in favor of a related (but not identical) resolution. However, as I said at that time, I did so not because I necessarily agreed that the Circuit Court's decision is “inconsistent with the U.S. Supreme Court's First Amendment jurisprudence” as that resolution said, but because I agreed that “the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals should agree to rehear” the matter, as that resolution also stated.

I am proud to recite the Pledge of Allegiance because I personally consider it as being neither a prayer nor a religious practice and so think its recitation is not a religious exercise but instead a verbal expression of support for our country. However, obviously not everyone shares my view. And, as I said last year, I am not prepared to conclude that the author of the Ninth Circuit decision—a long-serving judge originally appointed by President Nixon—was clearly wrong as a matter of law, even though as I understand it another appeals court, in a similar case, has ruled differently. So, I definitely think the issue needs to be resolved by the Supreme Court.

On rollcall No. 78, the Hill (Blue Dog) substitute to the budget resolution, I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall No. 79, the Toomey (Republican Study Committee) substitute to the budget resolution, I would have voted “no.”

On rollcall No. 80, the Cummings (Black Caucus/Progressive Caucus) substitute to the budget resolution, I would have voted “no.”

On rollcall No. 81, the Spratt (Democratic) substitute to the budget resolution, I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall No. 82, on passage on H. Con. Res. 95 (the budget resolution), I would have voted “no.”

On rollcall No. 83, passage of H. Con. Res. 104—expressing the support and appreciation of the Nation for the President and the members of the Armed forces who are participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom—I would have voted “yes.”

I would have done so because although I have disagreed with the way the President has handled the diplomatic events leading up to war, it is now time for us all to support our brave men and women in uniform who are charged with carrying out this mission and to pray for their success and safe return home. We all hope for a swift resolution with minimal casualties—among our troops and Iraqis as well. And we must do more to protect ourselves at home. I am confident that the United States and our allies will win the war. That will not be the end, but the beginning of the more difficult task of securing the peace. Congress must commit to providing aid to rebuild Iraq and the Administration must work to repair relationships with our allies. We will need them and the rest of the international community in our corner to rebuild Iraq, bring stability to the Middle East, and win the war on terrorism.

#### TRIBUTE TO GARLAND THOMPSON

### HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Georgian and an outstanding American citizen. I am proud to recognize Mr. Garland Thompson in the United States Congress for his invaluable contributions to his community, his state and his nation.

Mr. Garland Thompson was born on June 5, 1928 in Soperton, GA. His dad operated as a one-horse share cropper until he could save enough money to buy a small farm. Garland grew up on the farm planting row crops.

Garland showed signs of the talent, determination and achievement that have been the hallmarks of his career at an early age, when he graduated from Soperton High School. He then attended Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, and then University of Georgia where he earned his Bachelors degree. He then attended the University of Georgia School of Banking as well as the L.S.U School of Banking.

He met his wife, Anita, in Macon and they married in June, 1943. They have four children; Kirby, Andy, Beth and Tim and five grandchildren; Betsy, Macie, Kip, Katie and Trent.

Mr. Garland Thompson was employed with the U.S. Department of Agriculture for 12 years in Wilkinson County, before serving 37 years in banking between C&S Bank in Dublin, GA, and Sun Trust Bank in Douglas, GA.

Mr. Thompson has served on the Douglas-Coffee County Industrial Authority board for the past 21 years. He has also served as Interim President and Director for the Douglas-Coffee County Chamber of Commerce. Thirty years ago Coffee County was 90% dependent on their agriculture base. Today, they have a widely diversified economy that boasts about \$200 million in the industrial base and \$200 million in the agriculture base. As Garland says, “it's about 50/50 now and we are extremely blessed”.

Garland has retired but still serves on the Georgia State Soil & Water Commission, SubBelt Exposition, ABAC Alumni Board of Directors, and has served on the Vo-Ag Advisory Committee, Georgia Extension Advisory Commission, and the G.T.E. Advisory Board. He is also a consultant on the U.S. 441 Economic Development Council.

It is my distinguished pleasure today to honor Mr. Garland Thompson for his service and dedication to Coffee County and its citizens. He remains an inspiration to us all.

#### A TRIBUTE TO MOLLIE WEST

### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today, in celebration of Women's History Month, I rise to honor a woman from my district in Chicago, Mollie Lieber West, for her outstanding work and dedication to organizing women within the labor movement. Her leadership has opened

the door to thousands of women to join unions and stand up for their rights in the workplace.

Barely off the boat from Poland, Mollie West became an organizer and a person who stood her ground. She was arrested for passing out leaflets in protest of her high schools' decision to discharge all the music, art, and gym teachers because of budget constraints. Soon after, Mollie was demonstrating in support of the Republic Steel strikers in South Chicago. She found herself in them midst of the Memorial Day Massacre of 1937 where ten workers were killed by police bullets and were she, too, felt the pressure of a pistol at her back as she was ordered off the field.

Later, after working for various unions, she became a professional proofreader, and joined the Chicago Typographical Union. An active member and a delegate to the Chicago Federation of Labor, Mollie became the voice for women laborers. She successfully lobbied for the establishment of an annual tribute to the Trade Union Women of Chicago, which continues to flourish today.

Another of Mollie's great achievements was helping to found the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) in 1974. Today CLUW has a network of more than 75 chapters and a membership of 20,000 women and men. The goals of CLUW include promoting affirmative action in the workplace, strengthening the role of women in unions, organizing women workers, and increasing the involvement of women in the political and legislative process.

For the last twenty years, Mollie has served as an officer and a volunteer of the Illinois Labor History Society. From that platform, Mollie has been able to pass on her memories of the struggle to audiences across the country. In addition, she has continued to stay involved in electoral politics at all levels. To this day, you can always count on Mollie's voice to be among those fighting for the rights of all women workers.

Today, I ask you to join me in honoring Mollie for all she has contributed to working women everywhere!

#### IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

#### **HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. In 1987, Congress passed a resolution designating the month of March as Women's History Month and a time to honor, "American women of every race, class and ethnic background [who] have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways."

For 2003, the theme of Women's History Month is "Women Pioneering the Future." In celebration of this month, I would like to focus on four women from Wisconsin's history and honor their contributions to society.

First, I would like to recognize Cordelia A.P. Harvey. An army nurse during the Civil War, Ms. Harvey worked vigorously in support of soldiers and their families. She not only collected money to support soldiers and their families but also campaigned for cleaner and more efficient hospitals for the soldiers. Her

determination and sense of good will is something all Americans can strive for today.

Born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Helen Mears was a talented artist who won her first prize for sculpture at the age of nine. She studied formally in New York and Europe and was commissioned to sculpt a woman and winged eagle design, the "Genius of Wisconsin," for the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Her sculpture of temperance reformer Frances Willard was the first of a woman to be placed in the U.S. Capitol's Statuary Hall. Ms. Mears enjoyed a successful career and is remembered for her limitless energy and artistic ability.

Kathryn Clarenbach is a woman who has made invaluable contributions to our educational system. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Ms. Clarenbach created the continuing education program for women at the university and was appointed chair of the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women upon its creation in 1964. She chaired the commission for 14 years and continues to serve as an inspiration to all women.

Finally, I would like to talk about Edna Ferber. A talented writer, Ms. Ferber spent her early years in Appleton, Wisconsin and eventually wrote for the Milwaukee Journal. After four years at the paper, she returned to Appleton where she proceeded to write short stories. Credited with introducing the character of the American businesswoman to modern fiction, she composed not only books but plans as well, many of which have been turned into Broadway productions and movies.

Each of these women has had an impact not only on Wisconsin's history but also on the history of the nation as a whole. Whether in art or literature, activism or teaching, each of these women truly was a pioneer in her field and deserves our remembrance.

#### TRIBUTE TO AURELIO PALOMARES

#### **HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Ms. LINDA SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, on March 31, 2003, Aurelio Palomares, a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy, will be retiring after 32 years of distinguished county service.

Deputy Palomares was born in Leon, Mexico in 1948, and, three years later, immigrated to the United States with his parents. After becoming a United States citizen, Deputy Palomares enlisted in the U.S. Army and served as a medic from 1969 to 1971, until he was honorably discharged.

After his tour of duty, Deputy Palomares began his career with Los Angeles County as a security officer in 1971. Aspiring to be a deputy, he joined the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department in 1980.

Since then, Deputy Palomares has received 23 commendations throughout his career with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and has served as a bilingual bridge between law enforcement and the Spanish speaking community in Los Angeles County.

On April 8, 1985, he was commended after handling a bank robbery in which the suspect used a handgun and stole over \$4,000. Using

his uncanny ability to remember names and faces of suspects, Deputy Palomares reviewed the surveillance video and recognized the suspect as an inmate he had seen in the Los Angeles County Jail a few years before. Deputy Palomares provided the suspect's name to investigators, who subsequently arrested the suspect.

In 1986, Deputy Palomares was commended by the Mayor of Artesia, Robert Jamison, for his "consistent willingness to do more than what is required of him." Mayor Jamison also praised him as a "symbol of dedication to the department".

On June 2, 1989, Deputy Palomares was commended for his assistance in the apprehension of a Paramount gang member who had gotten into a shootout with deputies.

In 1994, Deputy Palomares was again commended, this time by the father of a drive-by shooting victim who wrote that Palomares' professional treatment of his son "calmed him and left a lasting and positive impression".

On March 19, 1996, he was commended by the Department of Corrections for "demonstrating exemplary service and dedication" in apprehending convicted felon parolees and for keeping "public safety in the forefront of his dealing with parolees and the community".

In 2000, Deputy Palomares was commended twice, once by a citizen for the caring and compassionate way he handled a rescue call in which a child was injured. The second commendation arose from his "prompt response and professionalism" that led to the arrest of a burglary suspect who had fired a handgun at the victim.

Throughout his career, Deputy Palomares has continuously demonstrated his dedication to his profession, community, and family. Deputy Palomares, who is affectionately called "AP" by his colleagues, has succeeded in having a close-knit family with his wife, Susan, their daughter, Sara, and son, Michael. As a family, the Palomares family regularly takes to the open road in an RV and visits all parts of the United States and Canada. On the road, he is sure to be tuned into National Public Radio, a station he listens to religiously while on duty.

From one public servant to another, I praise Aurelio Palomares for his valor in the face of danger and for his service to the community.

#### COLON CANCER SCREEN FOR LIFE ACT OF 2003

#### **HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Colon Cancer Screen for Life Act of 2003. Colorectal cancer is the number two cancer killer in the United States. This year, an estimated 147,000 new cases will be diagnosed and more than 57,000 Americans will die from the disease. My home state of Maryland ranks 7th in the nation in the number of new cases and in the number of deaths. Our capital city, Washington, DC, ranks first in the nation.

Colorectal cancer disproportionately impacts the elderly. The risk begins to increase after the age of 40 and rises sharply between the ages of 50 to 55, when it doubles with each

succeeding decade. Despite advances in surgical techniques and adjuvant therapy, there has been only a modest improvement in survival for patients with advanced cancers.

The good news is that colorectal cancer is preventable, and it is highly treatable when discovered early. Most cases of the disease begin as non-cancerous polyps which can be detected and removed during routine screenings—preventing the development of colorectal cancer. Screening tests also save lives even when they detect polyps that have become cancerous by catching the disease in its earliest, most curable stages. The cure rate is up to 93 percent when colorectal cancer is discovered early.

Recognizing the importance of early detection, Congress in 1997 enacted a Medicare colorectal cancer screening benefit. Medicare currently covers either a screening colonoscopy every ten years or a flexible sigmoidoscopy every four years for average-risk individuals. Beneficiaries identified as high risk are entitled to a colonoscopy every two years.

Despite the availability of this benefit, very few seniors are actually being screened for colorectal cancer. Since its implementation in 1998, the percentage of Medicare beneficiaries receiving either a screening or diagnostic colonoscopy has increased by only one percent.

Why aren't more seniors being screened? I believe the problem is due, in part, to rapidly declining colorectal screening reimbursement levels. By 2002, Medicare reimbursement for diagnostic colonoscopies performed in an outpatient setting had declined 36 percent from initial 1998 level. For flexible sigmoidoscopies, payment in 2002 was 54 percent less.

While reimbursement has dropped across the board, cuts have been particularly harsh for screenings provided in hospital outpatient departments (HOPDs) and ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs). In 1997, a colonoscopy performed in one of these settings was reimbursed at approximately \$301. Now in 2002, the rate has fallen to about \$213.

The facility-specific cuts provide incentives for physicians to perform screenings in their offices, where reimbursement rates have remained between 68 percent and 108 percent higher. As you know, Medicare has established its own criteria for both ASCs and HOPDs to ensure high quality of care and patient safety. While there are office facilities where endoscopy is safely performed, physicians' offices are, for the most part, unregulated environments. This site-of-service differential may interfere with the clinical decision-making process, at the expense of patient safety.

In addition, Medicare currently pays for a consultation prior to a diagnostic colonoscopy, but not for a screening colonoscopy. Since colonoscopy involves conscious sedation, physicians generally do not perform them without a pre-procedure office visit to ascertain a patient's medical history and to educate patients as to the required preparatory steps. In fact, several states now require physicians to consult with patients prior to procedures involving conscious sedation. Because Medicare will not pay for pre-screening consultations, many physicians must provide them for free.

And, unlike screening mammography, colorectal cancer screening tests are subject to the Medicare Part B deductible, which dis-

courages beneficiaries from seeking screening.

My colleague, Representative PHIL ENGLISH, joins me today to introduce this important legislation, as well as my colleagues in the Senate, JOSEPH LIEBERMAN and SUSAN COLLINS. This bill is supported by the American College of Gastroenterology, the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, and the American Gastroenterological Association. It would improve beneficiary utilization and help ensure the safety of colorectal cancer screenings by doing three things.

First, it would increase reimbursement for colorectal cancer related procedures to ensure that physicians are able to cover the costs of providing these valuable services.

Second, our bill will provide Medicare coverage for a pre-screening office visit. If Medicare will pay for a consultation prior to a diagnostic colonoscopy, it also should pay for a consultation before a screening colonoscopy.

Third, the bill would exempt colorectal cancer screening procedures from the customary Medicare deductible requirement. By reducing the financial requirements on the beneficiary, this law will encourage increased access to colorectal screening services.

The preventive benefits we authorized in 1997 were an important step toward fighting this deadly disease. But the colorectal cancer screening program is in danger of failing without our intervention. I strongly urge all my colleagues to support this critical legislation.

#### TRIBUTE TO RON KEENEY

#### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated civil servant and all around great American, Mr. Ron Keeney. After 37 years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Huntington, WV, he is retiring and embarking on a new stage of life. I want to express my deepest gratitude for his many contributions.

Ron Keeney has led a distinguished career and played a critical role in improving the lives and living conditions of thousands of people in my home district in Southern and Eastern Kentucky. Ron has been instrumental in getting a number of important flood control projects off the ground in my region and he shares my belief that we must carefully balance economic development with the needs of our rich natural environment. Through his efforts, the Huntington District has become an integral component of our region's PRIDE program, which is helping clean up our waterways and streams. I want to thank Ron for sharing my vision of how federal-local partnerships can bridge gaps, streamline the process, and make real contributions to people's daily lives.

Ron is also widely respected within the Army Corp of Engineers. Beyond measure, Ron has improved the Huntington District's programmatic, oversight, planning, and fiscal performance. He has also proven invaluable as the District's key civilian decision-maker with regard to strategic management of its major civil-works, environmental, and other programs and projects, including work for other Federal agencies.

The list of awards bestowed upon Ron speaks volumes about his job performance, knowledge, and skills. During his career, he has received more than 30 outstanding/exceptional performance ratings. He also received the May 1999, Silver de Fleury Medal, the 1994 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Planner of the Year, and the 1994 and 1985 LRD Planner of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues and myself, I want to thank Ron Keeney for the time and effort he has put into the lives of others. Although his time with the Corps of Engineers is drawing to a close, I know the people of the Huntington District will continue to benefit from his contributions for many years to come. I want to wish him and his family all the best for this next stage of life.

#### CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004

SPEECH OF

#### HON. ROSA L. DELAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 20, 2003*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 95) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2003 and 2005 through 2013:

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this rule. Budgets are about priorities. They are about values. But this budget does not reflect our priorities or our values. Instead, it shows an irresponsible disregard for working families and priorities the American people have made clear.

One example of that disregard in the Republican budget is its potential impact on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. While this budget does not explicitly instruct the Resources Committee to open ANWR for oil exploration, it is clear that the Republican majority intends to use its reconciliation instructions to the Resources Committee to move forward with the Administration's drilling proposal.

ANWR is one of the finest examples of wilderness left on the planet, with a full range of largely undisturbed ecosystems. The tens of thousands of caribou, polar and grizzly bears, birds, wolves, and fox that call this place home should not be sacrificed for a mere 180-day supply of oil, which is all the United States Geological Survey says we will likely recover. Even oil companies like British Petroleum, who have given up on the prospect of drilling in the Refuge, understand the relatively small amounts of oil ANWR is expected to yield and the high cost of removing it.

This budget should invest in renewable energy sources, not drilling for oil in the pristine wilderness. Yet my amendment to protect the Refuge in the Budget Committee was defeated on a party-line vote.

Mr. Chariman, this budget does not reflect the priorities or values of the American people. I urge my colleagues to oppose this rule.

TRIBUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE  
SONNY CALLAHAN

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 25, 2003*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the achievements and life of our former colleague, Herbert Leon Callahan, universally known as Sonny. I appreciate the invitation by our colleague, JO BONNER, Sonny's worthy successor, to express my thoughts about Sonny.

Born and raised in Mobile, Alabama, Sonny graduated from McGill Institute High School in Mobile, and went to serve his country honorably in the United States Navy from 1952 to 1954. Later, he attended the University of Alabama, Mobile.

Following a successful career in business, and terms in the Alabama state House of Representatives and state Senate, Sonny was elected to the 99th Congress. He went on to serve his district and his state with distinction for the next 16 years. During this time, he developed into a key authority on foreign aid matters in the House, and he rose to become one of the "Cardinals," the Appropriations subcommittee chairmen.

His involvement with foreign aid allowed him to do great good deeds to help those in need, and it allowed him to develop friendships with a unique cast of characters. I laughed at Sonny's quip about his efforts with the rock star, Bono, which he described as the "Sonny and Bono show."

Also, first as the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, then as Chairman of the Energy and Water Sub-

committee, Sonny always honored every appropriations request with fairness and a much-appreciated willingness to work with members. Sonny helped me personally in my efforts to improve the conditions of my district in rural West Virginia, and I want to publicly and personally thank him for his efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that we are greatly privileged to serve our constituencies and our Nation during our time in office. The "People's House" in which we serve is a monument to the American people, and it is a symbol of our country's sustained democracy. Let it be known that during his time in office Sonny Callahan served the People's House with distinction.

I wish Sonny well in his retirement. As I have said elsewhere, our loss is a clear gain for his family and friends.